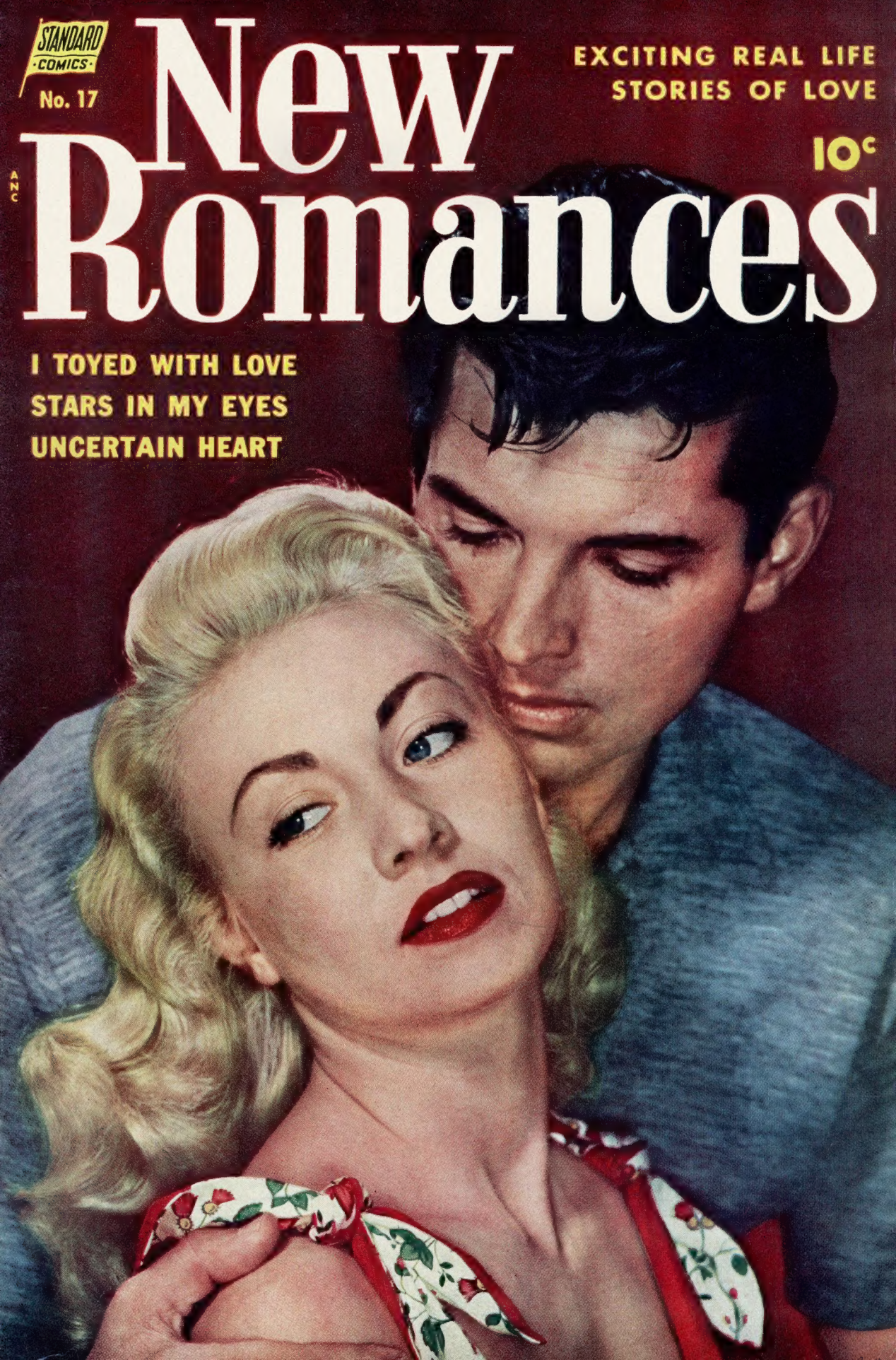
STANDARD COMICS
No. 17
New Romances
EXCITING REAL LIFE STORIES OF LOVE
10c
ANC
I TOYED WITH LOVE
STARS IN MY EYES
UNCERTAIN HEART

HAREM CO., *The House of Rings*, 30 Church St., Dept. 0249 New York 7, N. Y.. **OFFERS AMERICA'S GREATEST RING BARGAINS!**

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Here they are! America's best-loved rings for ladies and gents, offered by one of the most reliable ring houses for only $1.74 each. Many feature beautifully designed mountings of solid STERLING SILVER decorated with costly looking simulated diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, etc. These rings look like many dollars more. Send cash or money order with ring style number, finger size (strip of paper or string), we pay all postal charges. If you prefer, pay postman $1.74 C.O.D., in which case you pay postage.

SEND NO MONEY! RUSH CONVENIENT ORDER COUPON NOW! 10-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE!

153. Ladies' solitaire ring. Large brilliant simulated diamond in center, 6 smaller stones. Yellow or white gold color effect.

128. Men's birthstone ring. Large beautiful stone in red ruby, green emerald, blue sapphire, etc. 10 Kt gold sides on Sterling Silver mounting.

105. Ladies' wedding ring. 10 brilliant, simulated diamonds. 1/30 14Kt gold or Sterling Silver.

120. Men's massive Sterling Silver signet ring. Suitable for engraving initials.

169. Ladies' engagement solitaire ring. Large, simulated diamond, 2 smaller stones. 1/20 14Kt gold filled or 1/30 14Kt RGP.

156. Men's massive "Good Luck Horseshoe" ring. 4-leaf clover. White or yellow gold color effect.

146. Ladies' dinner ring. Gorgeous, large, simulated diamond and many smaller stones. Sterling Silver.

114. Very Special! A GENUINE diamond! Ladies' solitaire ring. 10Kt solid yellow gold mounting

172. Men's massive cameo ring. Simulated diamond in corner White 'gold' color effect. Also in ladies' size.

112. Men's exquisite Masonic ring. 1/20 12Kt yellow gold filled or Sterling Silver or 1/30 14Kt RGP.

130. Men's ring. Unusual design. 1 large stone with 6 small-size stones. Yellow or white gold plate over Sterling Silver

102. Ladies' exquisite engagement ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond. Sterling Silver.

119. Men's ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond. Massive gold color effect mounting.

157. Men's beautiful, heavy cameo ring. Large 2-toned faced cameo. Sterling Silver or 1/30 14Kt yellow or white gold color effect.

148. Ladies' wedding band. 7 matching, brilliant, simulated diamonds. White or yellow gold color effect.

162. Men's massive lion head ring. Large, simulated diamond in mouth, 2 smaller red stones in eyes. 1/30 14Kt gold RGP

115. Ladies' engagement ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond and many smaller stones. Unusual step design. Sterling Silver.

116. Ladies' exquisite wedding ring. 9 or 7 matching, simulated diamonds all around. Fishtail setting. Sterling Silver.

150. Ladies' engagement solitaire ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond, 6 smaller stones. Sterling Silver.

171. Ladies' engagement ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond, 4 smaller stones. 1/30 12Kt RGP.

170. Ladies' wedding ring. 6 brilliant, good-sized, matching, simulated diamonds. 1/30 12Kt RGP.

127. Men's ring. Beautiful, large, about 4Kt-size ruby color stone. Stone comes in all colors. Sterling Silver.

141. Ladies' cluster dinner ring. A beautiful gem. 7 or 12 brilliant, simulated diamonds. Pierced mounting. Sterling Silver or white gold color effect.

104. Ladies' gorgeous dinner ring. Brilliant, simulated diamond, 6 medium-size and many smaller stones. Sterling Silver. Very rare with so many stones.

163. Men's massive red stone ring. 1/20 12Kt yellow gold filled or 1/30 14Kt RGP.

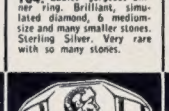
165. Ladies' fancy cocktail ring. 1 large, simulated diamond. 10 simulated rubies, 12 white stones. Yellow gold color effect.

164. Men's massive veteran's discharge ring. Heavy Sterling Silver.

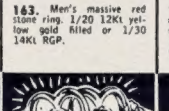
166. Men's beautiful western saddle design ring. Solid Sterling Silver or yellow gold color effect. Also in ladies' size.

160. Men's large square cut, simulated garnet ring. Yellow or white gold color effect

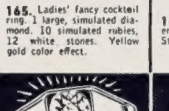
109. Men's signet ring with sparkling, simulated diamond. Heavy yellow gold color effect mounting.



111. Men's Viking cameo ring. 10Kt. gold top on solid Sterling Silver mounting.



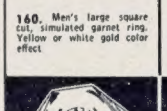
152. Sweetheart ring. 2 simulated rubies on entertwined hearts. Yellow gold color effect.



106. Men's solitaire ring. Large, brilliant 2Kt-size simulated diamond. Fine heavy mounting.

158. Men's Indian head ring. White gold color effect. Also in boys' sizes.

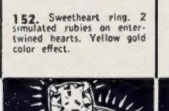
118. Ladies' friendship and modern style wedding ring. 1/20 14Kt yellow gold filled or 12Kt gold plate. Also heavy Sterling Silver.



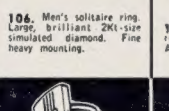
147. Massive compass ring. A handsome, well-made ring. In heavy white gold color effect.

126. Men's extra large Egyptian head ring, with snake on each side. 2 sparkling, simulated diamonds or red stones. Sterling Silver.

167. Ladies' exquisite cluster dinner ring. 3 large, simulated diamonds and many smaller stones. Sterling Silver or white gold color effect.



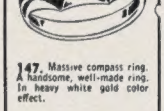
168. Ladies' exquisite engagement ring. 2 large, brilliant, simulated diamonds, 6 smaller stones. Sterling Silver or 1/30 14Kt gold.



159. Ladies' or men's locket ring. Holds 1/2" x 1/4" picture. Yellow or white gold color effect.

149. Ladies' dinner ring. Unusual design. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond, about 10 smaller stones. White gold color effect or Sterling Silver. Ring also comes in oval shape design.

161. Ladies' dinner ring. Gorgeous peacock design. 15 sparkling, simulated rubies, sapphires, emeralds. White or yellow gold color effect.



129. Men's solitaire ring. Brilliant, simulated 1Kt or 2Kt-size diamond. Sterling Silver.

101. Beautiful baby ring. Solid 10Kt solid yellow gold mounting.

121. Men's heavy Sterling Silver signet ring, suitable for engraving initials.

154. Ladies' birthstone ring. Gorgeous, square cut, 4Kt-size, simulated emerald. Sterling Silver or white gold color effect. Stone comes in all colors.

151. Men's ring. Simulated ruby in center, 2 simulated diamonds. Yellow gold color effect. Also with 3 white stones.

142. Men's U.S. Army insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.

145. Men's U.S. Navy insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.

144. Men's U.S. Marine Corps insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.

143. Men's U.S. Air Force insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.

107. Men's massive ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond, 2 smaller stones. White gold color effect.

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Ring No.	Ring Size	Ring No.	Ring Size

☐ I enclose $ _____ for _____ ring(s) at $1.74 each. (we pay all postage)

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(please print your name and address)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Note: No C.O.D. to Canada or outside U.S.A. Please remit cash or International Money Order. Send $1.75 with order.

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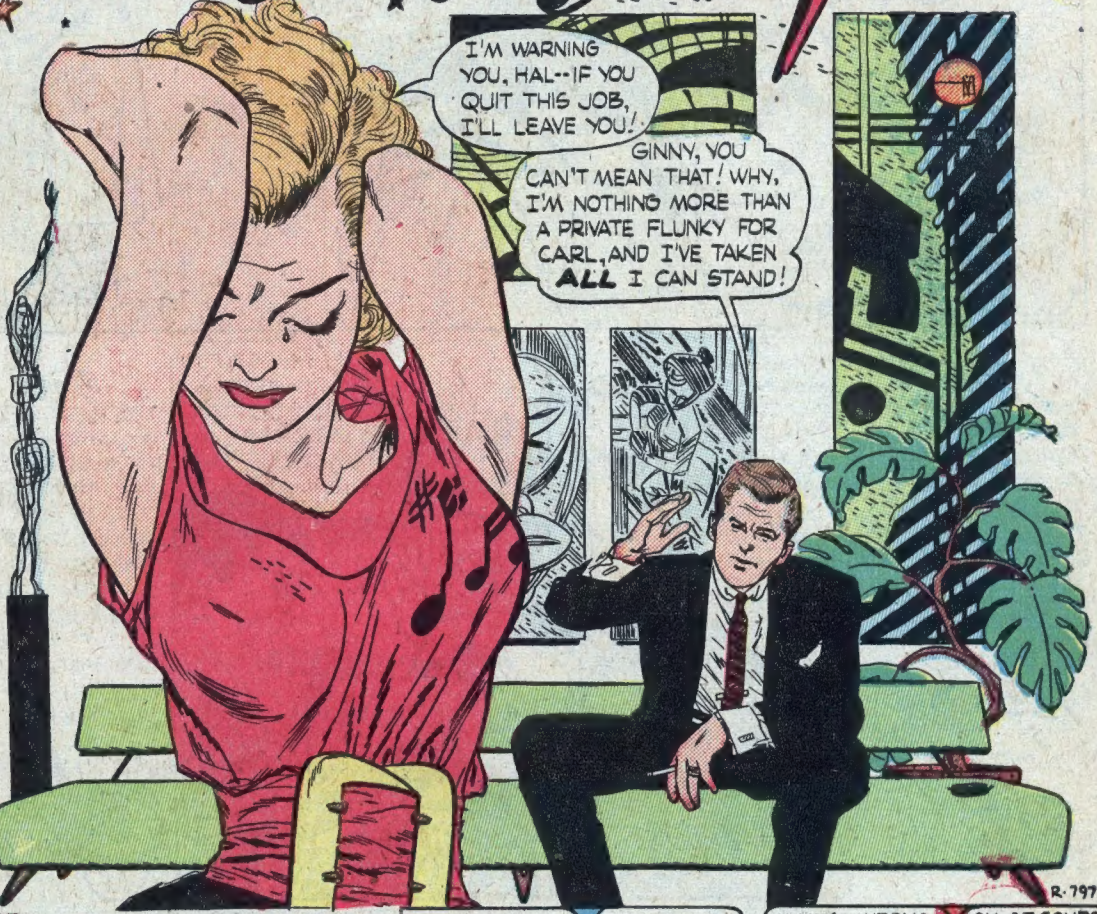
Stars in my Eyes


I'M WARNING YOU, HAL--IF YOU QUIT THIS JOB, I'LL LEAVE YOU!
GINNY, YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT! WHY, I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A PRIVATE FLUNKY FOR CARL, AND I'VE TAKEN ALL I CAN STAND!
R-797

"HAL'S JOB WITH CARL WITHERS MEANT A LIFE OF EXCITEMENT AND LUXURY I HAD ALWAYS DREAMED OF! BUT WAS I READY TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR PLACING **MY AMBITION** ABOVE MY HUSBAND'S SELF-RESPECT ?

JULIE SAUNDERS AND I GREW UP TOGETHER. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL SHE WENT TO CALIFORNIA - MET AND MARRIED CARL WITHERS, OWNER OF A CHAIN OF DEPARTMENT STORES. I MARRIED MY CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART, HAL MATHEWS! JULIE'S LATEST LETTER WAS, AS USUAL, FILLED WITH EXCITING NEWS...MAKING MY LIFE TERRIBLY DRAB BY COMPARISON! WHEN HAL CAME HOME--I COULDN'T HIDE MY DISCONTENT!

STANDARD COMICS
LOOK FOR THIS BANNER WHEN YOU BUY A COMIC MAGAZINE
IT IS YOUR GUARANTEE OF WHOLESOME READING
STANDARD COMICS

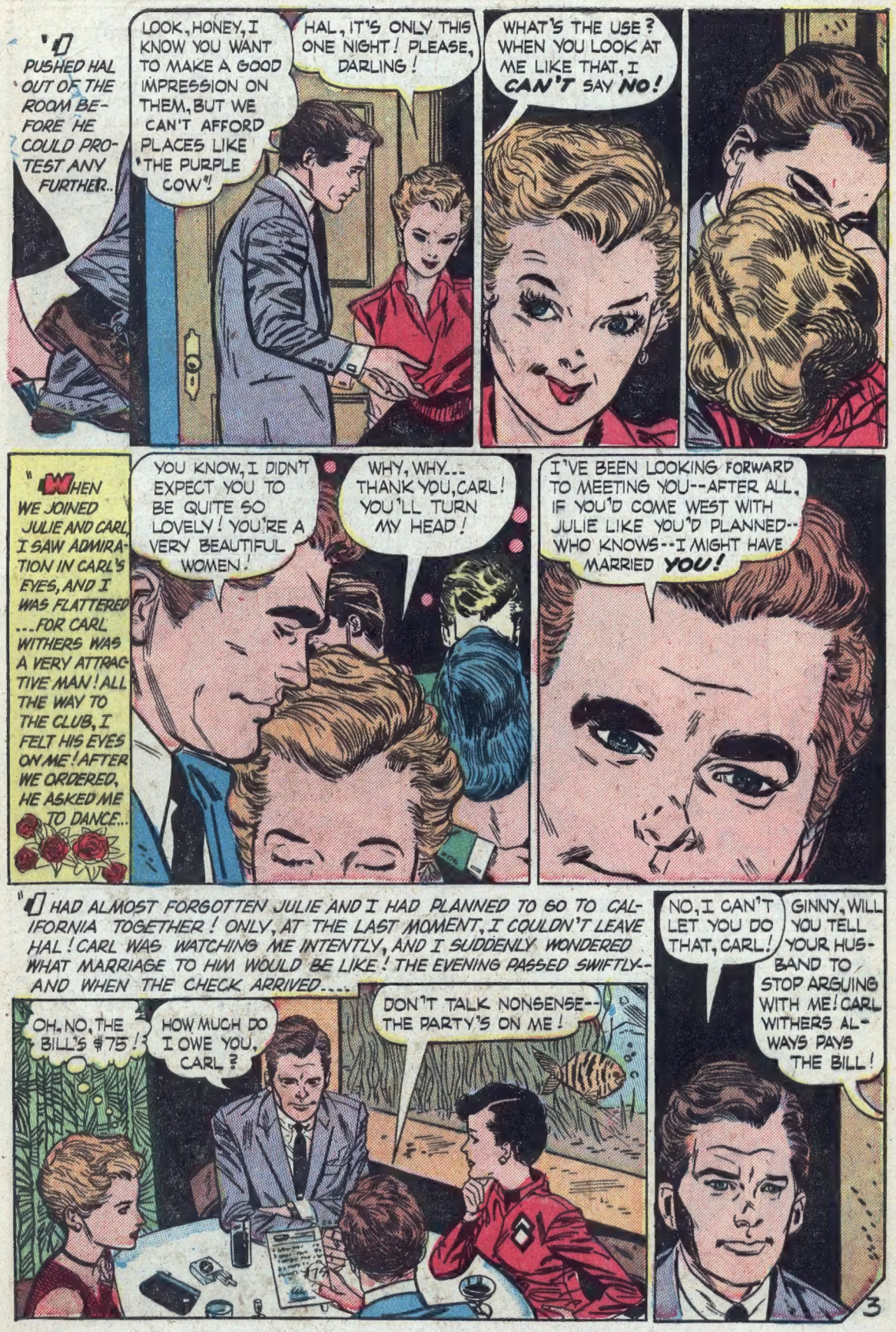
C'MON, HONEY, TELL ME WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU!
OH, I HAD A LETTER FROM JULIE TODAY! I CAN'T HELP BEING JEALOUS--THEY SEEM TO HAVE EVERY-THING... ALWAYS TRAVELING, MEETING NEW PEOPLE...

I FEEL AS THOUGH WE'RE MISSING SO MUCH! WE NEVER HAVE ENOUGH MONEY LEFT OVER TO DO ANYTHING EXCITING!
JUST A MINUTE, BABY--- I'M ONLY A C.P.A.! YOU CAN'T EXPECT US TO LIVE THE WAY THEY DO! WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO!

"HAL'S WORDS--HIS LIPS ON MINE--MADE ME TERRIBLY ASHAMED OF MYSELF! DURING THE FOLLOWING DAYS, I TRIED TO PUT JULIE OUT OF MY MIND! THEN, ON SATURDAY, I RECEIVED A SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER FROM HER!

HAL, LISTEN, DARLING··· JULIE AND CARL ARE COMING HERE ON A BUSINESS TRIP! CAN I INVITE THEM TO STAY WITH US?
SURE! MAYBE A FEW DAYS WITH THEM IS ALL YOU NEED TO GET OVER SOME OF YOUR CRAZY IDEAS!
SEE

"FOR THE NEXT WEEK, MY MIND WAS FILLED WITH JULIE AND CARL 'WOULD THEY FIND US DULL? HOW WOULD CARL AND HAL GET ALONG? I WAS PRACTICALLY A NERVOUS WRECK BY THE TIME THEY ARRIVED! AFTER JULIE HAD INTRODUCED US TO CARL...


"I PUSHED HAL OUT OF THE ROOM BEFORE HE COULD PROTEST ANY FURTHER...
LOOK, HONEY, I KNOW YOU WANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON THEM, BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD PLACES LIKE "THE PURPLE COW"!
HAL, IT'S ONLY THIS ONE NIGHT! PLEASE, DARLING!
WHAT'S THE USE? WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT, I CAN'T SAY NO!
"WHEN WE JOINED JULIE AND CARL I SAW ADMIRATION IN CARL'S EYES, AND I WAS FLATTERED ...FOR CARL WITHERS WAS A VERY ATTRACTIVE MAN! ALL THE WAY TO THE CLUB, I FELT HIS EYES ON ME! AFTER WE ORDERED, HE ASKED ME TO DANCE...
YOU KNOW, I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO BE QUITE SO LOVELY! YOU'RE A VERY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN!
WHY, WHY... THANK YOU, CARL! YOU'LL TURN MY HEAD!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU--AFTER ALL, IF YOU'D COME WEST WITH JULIE LIKE YOU'D PLANNED-- WHO KNOWS--I MIGHT HAVE MARRIED YOU!
"I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN JULIE AND I HAD PLANNED TO GO TO CALIFORNIA TOGETHER! ONLY, AT THE LAST MOMENT, I COULDN'T LEAVE HAL! CARL WAS WATCHING ME INTENTLY, AND I SUDDENLY WONDERED WHAT MARRIAGE TO HIM WOULD BE LIKE! THE EVENING PASSED SWIFTLY-- AND WHEN THE CHECK ARRIVED....
OH, NO, THE BILL'S $75!
HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU, CARL?
DON'T TALK NONSENSE-- THE PARTY'S ON ME!
NO, I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT, CARL!
GINNY, WILL YOU TELL YOUR HUSBAND TO STOP ARGUING WITH ME! CARL WITHERS ALWAYS PAYS THE BILL!
3

HAL GAVE IN RELUCTANTLY, AND I SIGHED WITH RELIEF! WE WOULD'VE HAD TO SKIMP FOR WEEKS TO PAY FOR THAT EVENING. THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN HAL GOT HOME FROM WORK...

WELL, WHERE DO WE GO TONIGHT? ANY SUGGESTIONS, HAL?

GINNY AND I DON'T DO MUCH NIGHT-CLUBBING, CARL! WHY DON'T YOU AND JULIE COUNT US OUT FOR TONIGHT! FRANKLY, WE JUST CAN'T AFFORD TO GO OUT THE WAY YOU PEOPLE DO!

I THOUGHT I MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS WHOLE PARTY'S ON ME! LOOK, STOP WORRYING ABOUT HOW MUST THINGS COST!

NO, REALLY, CARL.. WE CAN'T LET YOU PAY FOR EVERYTHING! WE JUST CAN'T...

THERE WAS AN UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE AS HAL LEFT THE ROOM! QUICKLY EXCUSING MYSELF, I FOLLOWED HIM...

HAL, YOU WERE RUDE! WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE IF CARL PAYS... HE'S USED TO SPENDING MONEY...

GEE, HONEY, I WOULDN'T FEEL RIGHT! HE--HE TREATS US LIKE POOR RELATIVES!

HAL, THAT ISN'T TRUE--THAT'S JUST CARL'S WAY! YOU'RE TOO PROUD! OH PLEASE, HAL. LET'S GO OUT WITH THEM! THEY'LL ONLY BE HERE FOR THIS WEEK!

DOES IT REALLY MATTER THAT MUCH TO YOU?... OKAY, WE'LL GO!

ALTHOUGH HAL GAVE IN, I KNEW HOW MUCH IT HURT HIS PRIDE! BUT I QUICKLY FORGOT ABOUT IT WITH ALL THE EXCITEMENT! CARL WAS A RESTLESS MAN, UNABLE TO SIT STILL, AND SO WE WERE ON THE GO EVERY MINUTE, DOING EVERYTHING---

WAITER, MORE OF THE SAME!

DRINK UP, KIDS, THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM!

DARLING, I'M HAVING SUCH A WONDERFUL TIME!

MOCAMBO

COME ON, GOLDEN BOY!

WELL, IT'S ONLY MONEY!

THE PLAYERS

THE TURF CLUB

MENU

Ciro's

"ALTHOUGH I KNEW HAL WASN'T ENJOYING HIMSELF, I WAS HAVING THE TIME OF MY LIFE! CARL WAS A VERY ATTENTIVE HUSBAND, BUT WHEREEVER WE WENT, I ALWAYS FELT HIS EYES ON ME! THEN, THE NIGHT BEFORE THEY LEFT...

HAL, HOW'D YOU LIKE TO COME BACK TO LOS ANGELES AND BE MY ASSISTANT? I'D MAKE IT WORTH YOUR WHILE FINANCIALLY!

WELL, THANKS, CARL.. I REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE OFFERING ME, BUT I SORT OF LIKE MY SET-UP HERE!

WELL, SLEEP ON IT BEFORE YOU GIVE ME A FINAL DECISION!

MAKE HIM SAY YES, GINNY! THINK OF HOW MUCH FUN WE COULD HAVE TOGETHER!

YES!

"MY HEAD WAS SPINNING AS WE SAID GOODNIGHT TO JULIE AND CARL! WHEN HAL AND I WERE ALONE...

DARLING, YOU WEREN'T SERIOUS WHEN YOU TURNED DOWN CARL'S OFFER, WERE YOU? JUST THINK WHAT IT WOULD MEAN TO US!

HONEY, I KNOW IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND, BUT I LIKE WORKING FOR MYSELF! I KNOW WE WON'T EVER BE RICH, BUT WE'LL HAVE.....

"I COULDN'T HIDE MY DISAPPOINTMENT! I TURNED AWAY FROM HAL...

GINNY, IS IT **THAT** IMPORTANT!

OH, DON'T YOU SEE, HAL... IT WOULD MEAN OUR BEING ABLE TO LIVE THE WAY I'VE ALWAYS WANTED--GOING PLACES, MEETING IMPORTANT PEOPLE...

.... HAVING A BEAUTIFUL HOME, NICE CLOTHES!

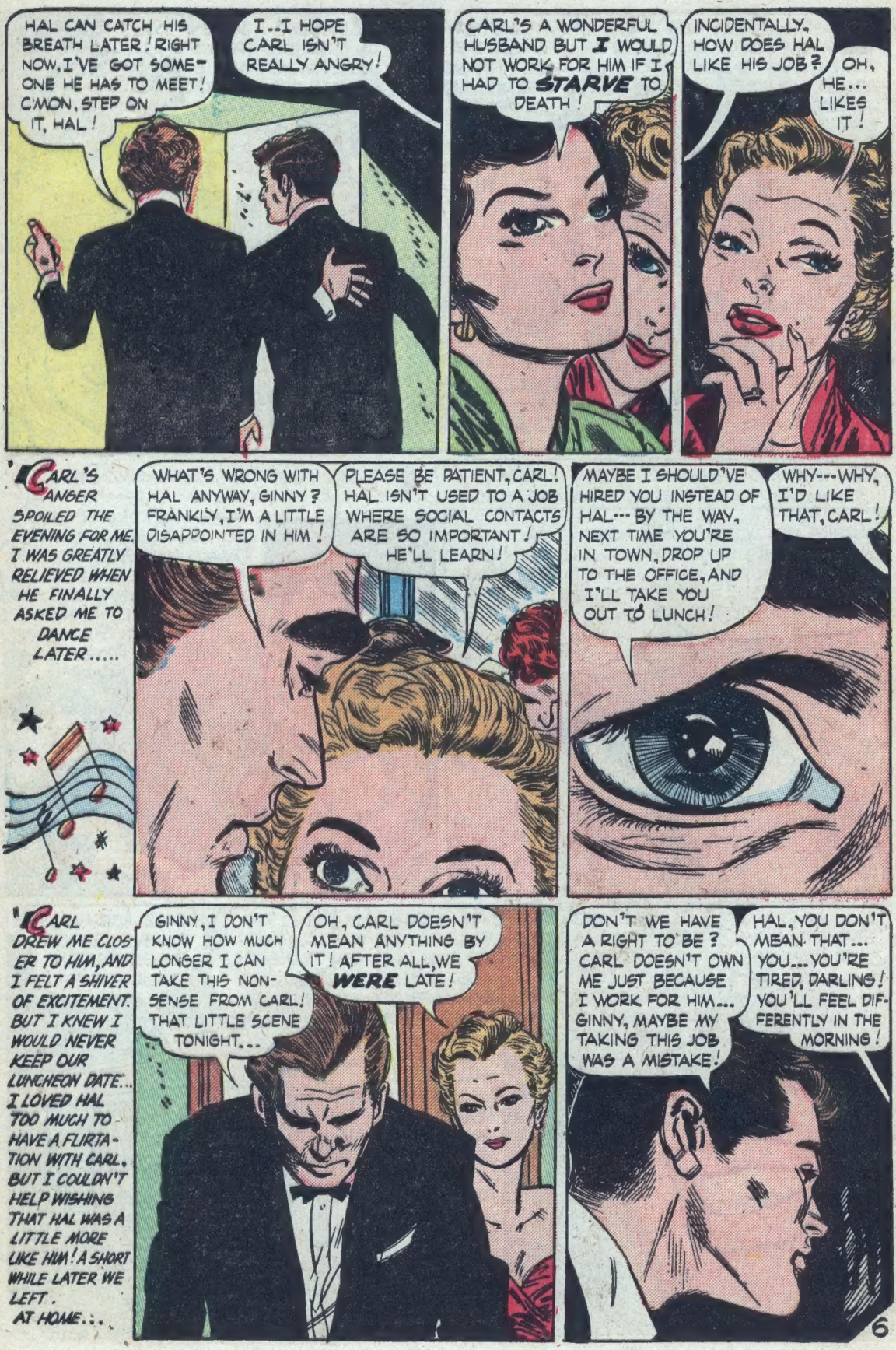
I GUESS I NEVER REALIZED HOW YOU FELT BEFORE, GINNY! WELL, I SUPPOSE I COULD AT LEAST GIVE IT A TRY! I CAN ALWAYS QUIT IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT!

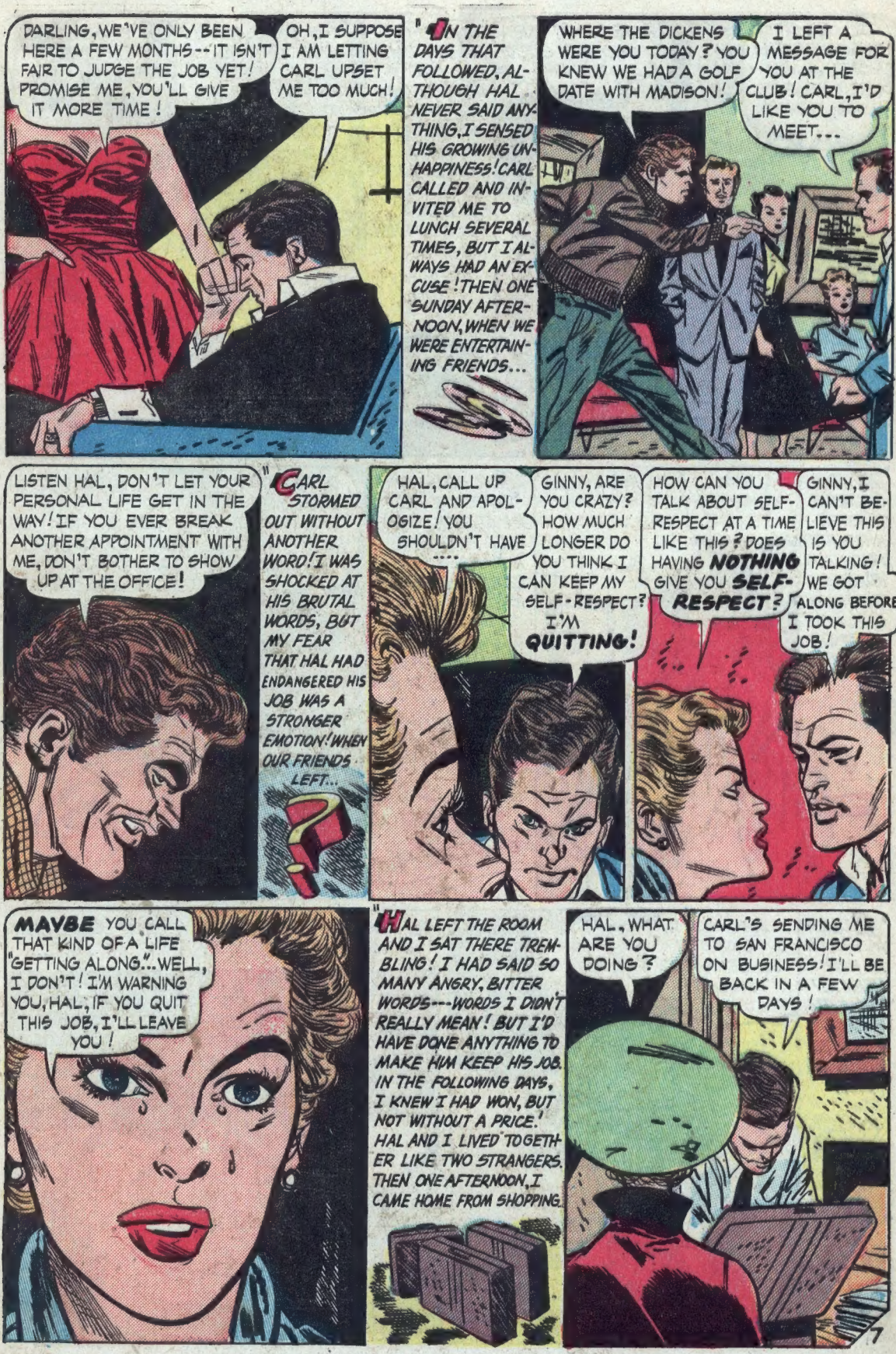
OHHH HAL!!

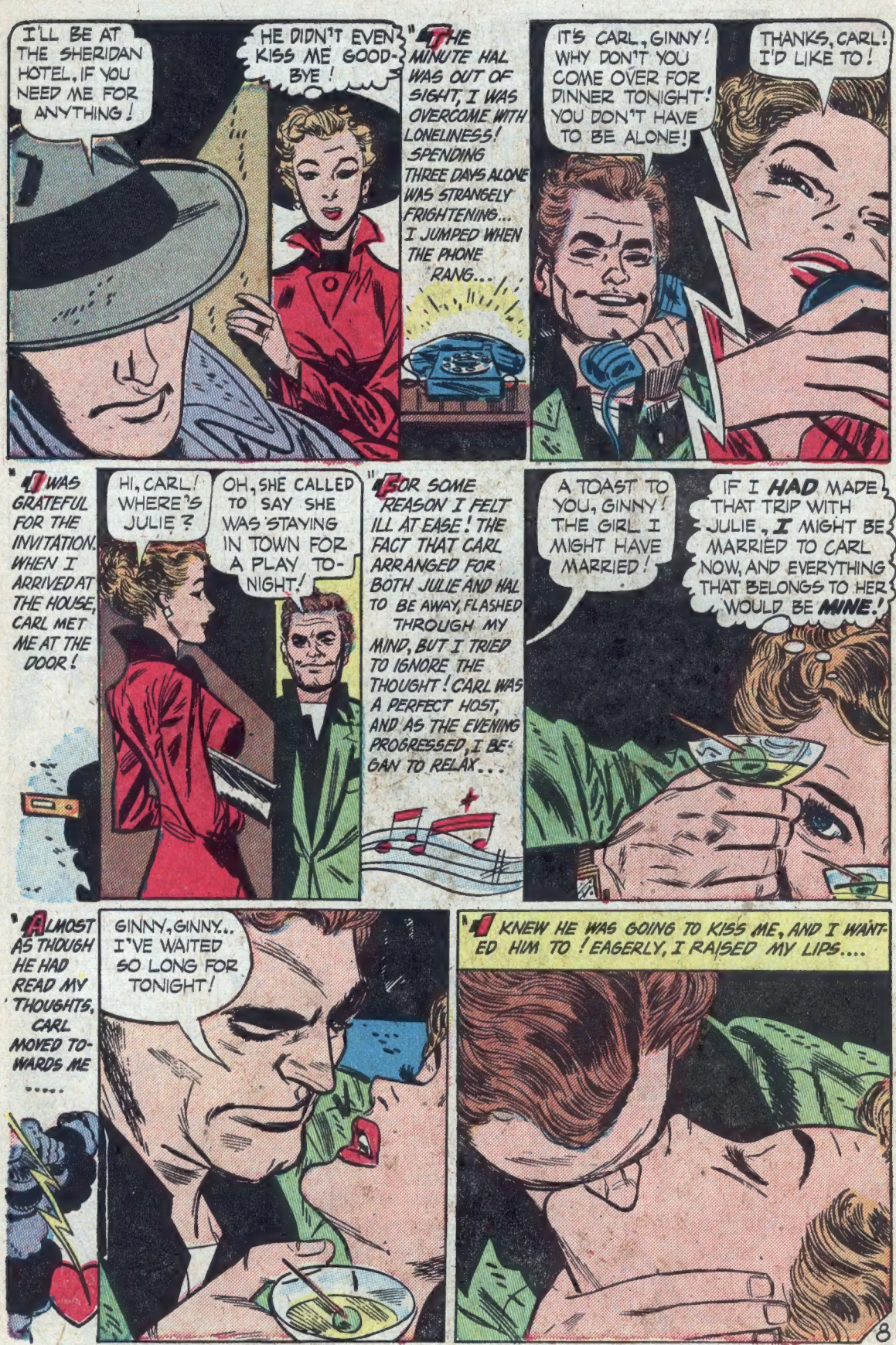
"THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED WERE THE MOST EXCITING OF MY LIFE! WE MOVED TO LOS ANGELES IMMEDIATELY, AND HAL STARTED HIS NEW JOB! NEARLY EVERY NIGHT CARL HAD PEOPLE HE WANTED US TO MEET! BUT HE WASN'T ALWAYS THE EASIEST PERSON TO PLEASE!

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU TWO BEEN? YOU'RE ALMOST AN HOUR LATE!

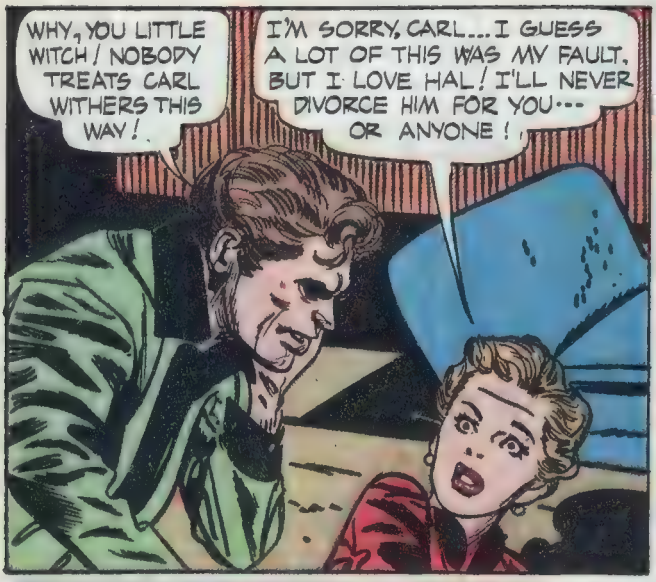
CARL, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, GIVE THEM TIME TO CATCH THEIR BREATH!

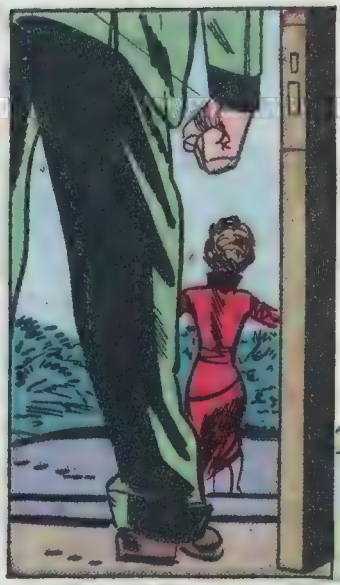

HAL CAN CATCH HIS BREATH LATER! RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOT SOMEONE HE HAS TO MEET! C'MON, STEP ON IT, HAL!
I..I HOPE CARL ISN'T REALLY ANGRY!
CARL'S A WONDERFUL HUSBAND BUT I WOULD NOT WORK FOR HIM IF I HAD TO STARVE TO DEATH!
INCIDENTALLY, HOW DOES HAL LIKE HIS JOB?
OH, HE... LIKES IT!
"CARL'S ANGER SPOILED THE EVENING FOR ME. I WAS GREATLY RELIEVED WHEN HE FINALLY ASKED ME TO DANCE LATER.....
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HAL ANYWAY, GINNY? FRANKLY, I'M A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED IN HIM!
PLEASE BE PATIENT, CARL! HAL ISN'T USED TO A JOB WHERE SOCIAL CONTACTS ARE SO IMPORTANT! HE'LL LEARN!
MAYBE I SHOULD'VE HIRED YOU INSTEAD OF HAL--- BY THE WAY, NEXT TIME YOU'RE IN TOWN, DROP UP TO THE OFFICE, AND I'LL TAKE YOU OUT TO LUNCH!
WHY---WHY, I'D LIKE THAT, CARL!
"CARL DREW ME CLOSER TO HIM, AND I FELT A SHIVER OF EXCITEMENT. BUT I KNEW I WOULD NEVER KEEP OUR LUNCHEON DATE... I LOVED HAL TOO MUCH TO HAVE A FLIRTATION WITH CARL, BUT I COULDN'T HELP WISHING THAT HAL WAS A LITTLE MORE LIKE HIM! A SHORT WHILE LATER WE LEFT. AT HOME....
GINNY, I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN TAKE THIS NONSENSE FROM CARL! THAT LITTLE SCENE TONIGHT...
OH, CARL DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT! AFTER ALL, WE WERE LATE!
DON'T WE HAVE A RIGHT TO BE? CARL DOESN'T OWN ME JUST BECAUSE I WORK FOR HIM... GINNY, MAYBE MY TAKING THIS JOB WAS A MISTAKE!
HAL, YOU DON'T MEAN THAT... YOU... YOU'RE TIRED, DARLING! YOU'LL FEEL DIFFERENTLY IN THE MORNING!


DARLING, WE'VE ONLY BEEN HERE A FEW MONTHS--IT ISN'T FAIR TO JUDGE THE JOB YET! PROMISE ME, YOU'LL GIVE IT MORE TIME!
OH, I SUPPOSE I AM LETTING CARL UPSET ME TOO MUCH!
"IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, ALTHOUGH HAL NEVER SAID ANYTHING, I SENSED HIS GROWING UNHAPPINESS! CARL CALLED AND INVITED ME TO LUNCH SEVERAL TIMES, BUT I ALWAYS HAD AN EXCUSE! THEN ONE SUNDAY AFTERNOON, WHEN WE WERE ENTERTAINING FRIENDS...
WHERE THE DICKENS WERE YOU TODAY? YOU KNEW WE HAD A GOLF DATE WITH MADISON!
I LEFT A MESSAGE FOR YOU AT THE CLUB! CARL, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET...
LISTEN HAL, DON'T LET YOUR PERSONAL LIFE GET IN THE WAY! IF YOU EVER BREAK ANOTHER APPOINTMENT WITH ME, DON'T BOTHER TO SHOW UP AT THE OFFICE!
"CARL STORMED OUT WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD! I WAS SHOCKED AT HIS BRUTAL WORDS, BUT MY FEAR THAT HAL HAD ENDANGERED HIS JOB WAS A STRONGER EMOTION! WHEN OUR FRIENDS LEFT...
HAL, CALL UP CARL AND APOLOGIZE! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ....
GINNY, ARE YOU CRAZY? HOW MUCH LONGER DO YOU THINK I CAN KEEP MY SELF-RESPECT? I'M QUITTING!
HOW CAN YOU TALK ABOUT SELF-RESPECT AT A TIME LIKE THIS? DOES HAVING NOTHING GIVE YOU SELF-RESPECT?
GINNY, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS YOU TALKING! WE GOT ALONG BEFORE I TOOK THIS JOB!
MAYBE YOU CALL THAT KIND OF A LIFE "GETTING ALONG"... WELL, I DON'T! I'M WARNING YOU, HAL, IF YOU QUIT THIS JOB, I'LL LEAVE YOU!
"HAL LEFT THE ROOM AND I SAT THERE TREMBLING! I HAD SAID SO MANY ANGRY, BITTER WORDS---WORDS I DIDN'T REALLY MEAN! BUT I'D HAVE DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE HIM KEEP HIS JOB. IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS, I KNEW I HAD WON, BUT NOT WITHOUT A PRICE. HAL AND I LIVED TOGETHER LIKE TWO STRANGERS. THEN ONE AFTERNOON, I CAME HOME FROM SHOPPING.
HAL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
CARL'S SENDING ME TO SAN FRANCISCO ON BUSINESS! I'LL BE BACK IN A FEW DAYS!


I'LL BE AT THE SHERIDAN HOTEL. IF YOU NEED ME FOR ANYTHING!
HE DIDN'T EVEN KISS ME GOOD-BYE!
"THE MINUTE HAL WAS OUT OF SIGHT, I WAS OVERCOME WITH LONELINESS! SPENDING THREE DAYS ALONE WAS STRANGELY FRIGHTENING... I JUMPED WHEN THE PHONE RANG...
IT'S CARL, GINNY! WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER FOR DINNER TONIGHT! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE!
THANKS, CARL! I'D LIKE TO!
"I WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE INVITATION. WHEN I ARRIVED AT THE HOUSE, CARL MET ME AT THE DOOR!
HI, CARL! WHERE'S JULIE?
OH, SHE CALLED TO SAY SHE WAS STAYING IN TOWN FOR A PLAY TO-NIGHT!
"FOR SOME REASON I FELT ILL AT EASE! THE FACT THAT CARL ARRANGED FOR BOTH JULIE AND HAL TO BE AWAY, FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND, BUT I TRIED TO IGNORE THE THOUGHT! CARL WAS A PERFECT HOST, AND AS THE EVENING PROGRESSED, I BE-GAN TO RELAX...
A TOAST TO YOU, GINNY! THE GIRL I MIGHT HAVE MARRIED!
IF I HAD MADE THAT TRIP WITH JULIE, I MIGHT BE MARRIED TO CARL NOW, AND EVERYTHING THAT BELONGS TO HER WOULD BE MINE!
"ALMOST AS THOUGH HE HAD READ MY THOUGHTS, CARL MOVED TO-WARDS ME .....
GINNY, GINNY... I'VE WAITED SO LONG FOR TONIGHT!
"I KNEW HE WAS GOING TO KISS ME, AND I WANT-ED HIM TO! EAGERLY, I RAISED MY LIPS....

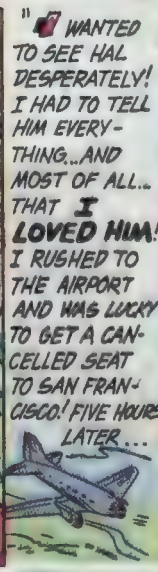
"NEVER HAD I BEEN SO DISAPPOINTED. CARL'S KISS WAS LIKE A SLAP IN THE FACE, SHOCKINGLY BRUTAL--EXACTLY LIKE HIM! THE MAGIC THAT HAD HELD ME A MOMENT BEFORE WAS SHATTERED.
CARL, LET ME GO...PLEASE... THIS ISN'T RIGHT!
STOP ACTING LIKE A CHILD, GINNY! I'M TIRED OF YOUR PUTTING ME OFF! YOU CAN STOP PRETENDING NOW!
JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CARL?
WHY DO YOU THINK I HIRED HAL IN THE FIRST PLACE? I CAN FIND A DOZEN BETTER THAN HIM ANY DAY! I HIRED HIM SO YOU AND I COULD BE TOGETHER!
LOOK, GINNY...I KNOW YOU FEEL LOYAL TO HAL, BUT I'LL SEE THAT HE AND JULIE ARE TAKEN CARE OF! THERE'S NOTHING LIKE MONEY TO MEND A BROKEN HEART!
WE'LL BOTH GET A DIVORCE AS SOON AS I CAN MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS!
"CARL'S WORDS REPULSED ME! ANY ATTRACTION I HAD EVER FELT FOR HIM WAS GONE... DESTROYED BY HIS CALLOUSNESS, BUT CARL SEEMED UNAWARE OF THE CHANGE IN ME! HE PULLED ME TOWARD HIM AGAIN...
!
BUT IF I SAY "NO" TO HIM, HE'LL THROW BOTH HAL AND ME OUT! WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE WAY WE LIVED BEFORE...
"SUDDENLY, I HATED MYSELF! WHAT KIND OF A WOMAN WAS I? HOW COULD I EVER COMPARE MATERIAL THINGS TO HAL'S LOVE?
CARL, LET ME GO!
LET ME GO!


WHY, YOU LITTLE WITCH! NOBODY TREATS CARL WITHERS THIS WAY!
I'M SORRY, CARL... I GUESS A LOT OF THIS WAS MY FAULT, BUT I LOVE HAL! I'LL NEVER DIVORCE HIM FOR YOU··· OR ANYONE!

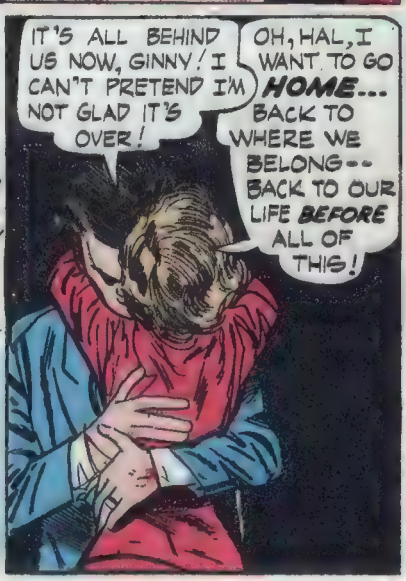


"I DIDN'T WANT TO GO HOME! I WALKED UNTIL I CAME TO A PARK, AND SAT DOWN ON THE NEAREST BENCH! I FELT MISERABLY CONFUSED... BUT STRANGELY **FREE** AT THE SAME TIME...

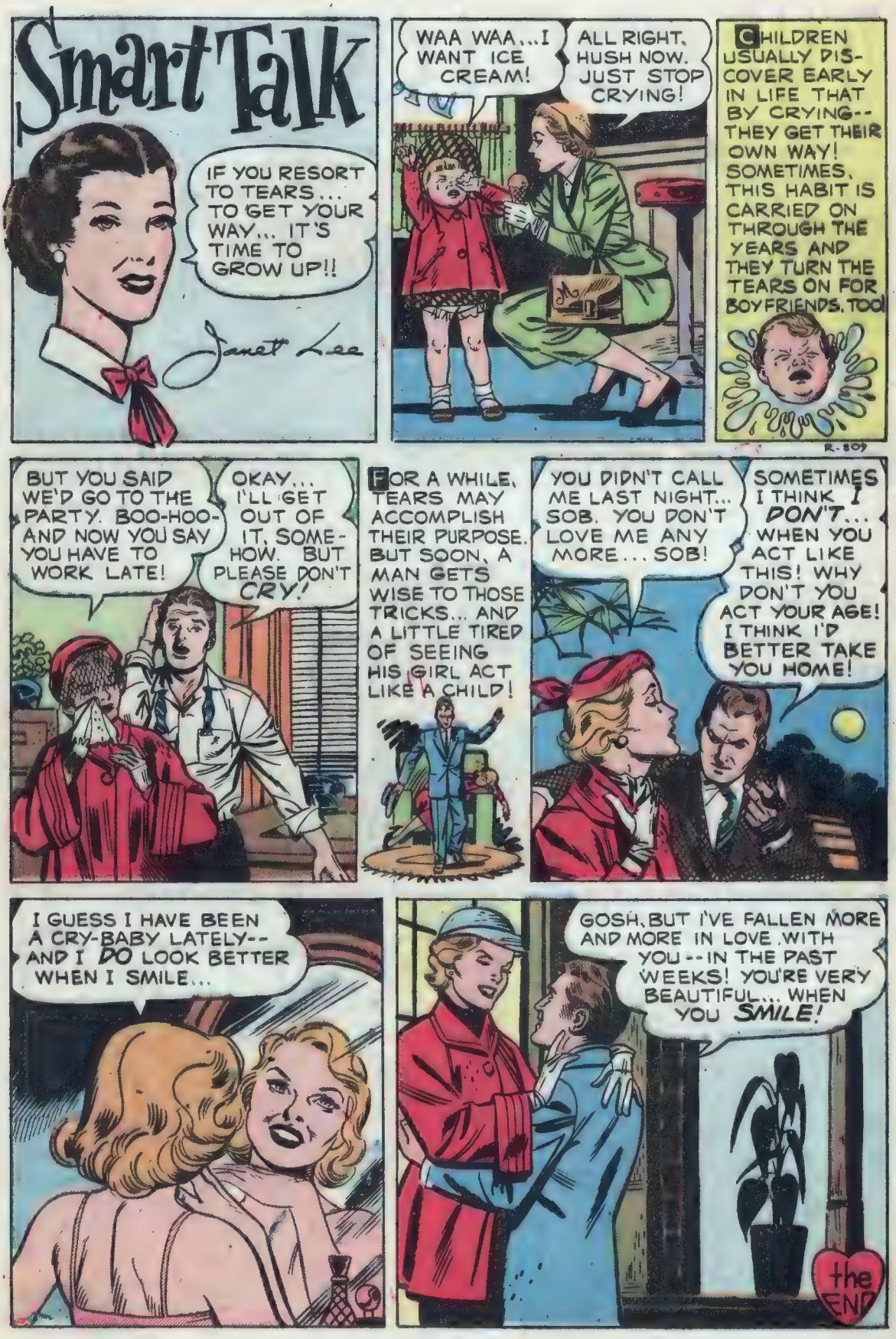
"I WANTED TO SEE HAL DESPERATELY! I HAD TO TELL HIM EVERYTHING... AND MOST OF ALL... THAT **I LOVED HIM!** I RUSHED TO THE AIRPORT AND WAS LUCKY TO GET A CANCELLED SEAT TO SAN FRANCISCO! FIVE HOURS LATER...



I HADN'T KNOWN HOW I WOULD TELL HIM, BUT THE WHOLE STORY POURED FROM MY LIPS! WHEN I HAD FINISHED, HAL GENTLY TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS...

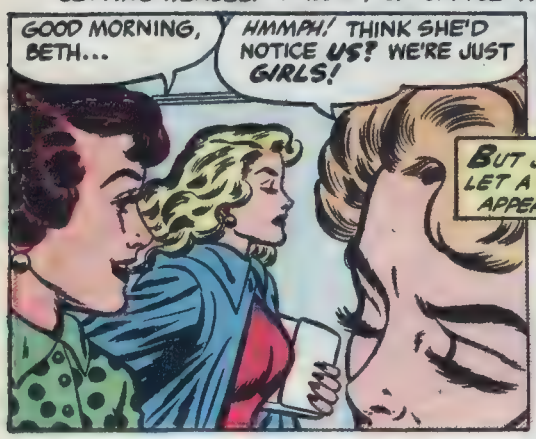

IT'S ALL BEHIND US NOW, GINNY! I CAN'T PRETEND I'M NOT GLAD IT'S OVER!
OH, HAL, I WANT TO GO **HOME...** BACK TO WHERE WE BELONG-- BACK TO OUR LIFE **BEFORE** ALL OF THIS!

"IN HAL'S ARMS I PROMISED MYSELF I WOULD NEVER AGAIN LET GREED THREATEN OUR LOVE! IT WAS A PROMISE I KNEW I COULD KEEP!"


Smart Talk
IF YOU RESORT TO TEARS... TO GET YOUR WAY... IT'S TIME TO GROW UP!!
Janet Lee
WAA WAA...I WANT ICE CREAM!
ALL RIGHT, HUSH NOW. JUST STOP CRYING!
CHILDREN USUALLY DISCOVER EARLY IN LIFE THAT BY CRYING--THEY GET THEIR OWN WAY! SOMETIMES, THIS HABIT IS CARRIED ON THROUGH THE YEARS AND THEY TURN THE TEARS ON FOR BOYFRIENDS, TOO!
R-809
BUT YOU SAID WE'D GO TO THE PARTY. BOO-HOO-AND NOW YOU SAY YOU HAVE TO WORK LATE!
OKAY... I'LL GET OUT OF IT, SOMEHOW. BUT PLEASE DON'T CRY!
FOR A WHILE, TEARS MAY ACCOMPLISH THEIR PURPOSE. BUT SOON, A MAN GETS WISE TO THOSE TRICKS... AND A LITTLE TIRED OF SEEING HIS GIRL ACT LIKE A CHILD!
YOU DIDN'T CALL ME LAST NIGHT... SOB. YOU DON'T LOVE ME ANY MORE... SOB!
SOMETIMES I THINK I DON'T... WHEN YOU ACT LIKE THIS! WHY DON'T YOU ACT YOUR AGE! I THINK I'D BETTER TAKE YOU HOME!
I GUESS I HAVE BEEN A CRY-BABY LATELY--AND I DO LOOK BETTER WHEN I SMILE...
GOSH, BUT I'VE FALLEN MORE AND MORE IN LOVE WITH YOU--IN THE PAST WEEKS! YOU'RE VERY BEAUTIFUL... WHEN YOU SMILE!
the END

THE OFFICE FLIRT

EVERY OFFICE HAS ONE...THE GIRL WHOSE MIND IS STRICTLY ON BUSINESS...THE BUSINESS OF GETTING HERSELF A MAN, ON OFFICE TIME!



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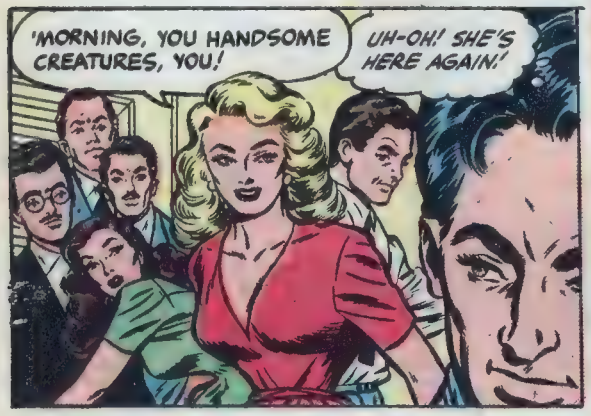
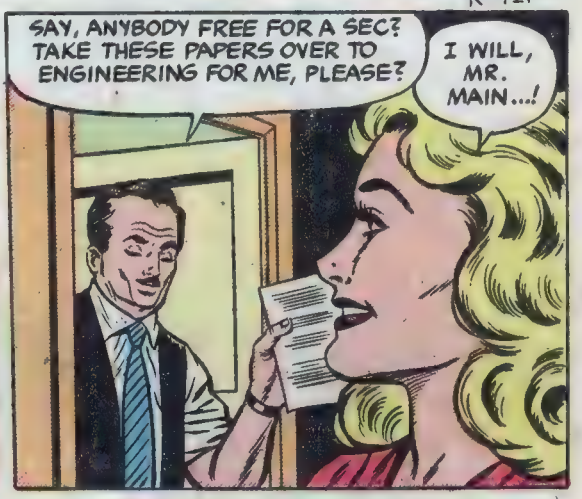
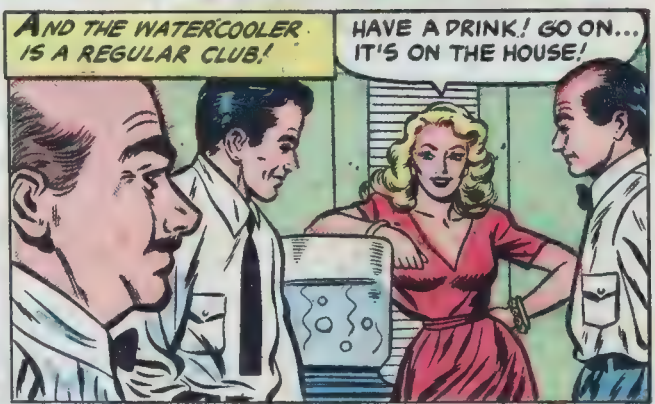
SHE WEARS STYLES DESIGNED TO ATTRACT ATTENTION... OF MEN, THAT IS!





I KNEW IT! SHE'LL RUN A MILLION LITTLE ERRANDS A DAY, AND STRETCH 'EM OUT TO AN HOUR EACH...JUST TO GAB WITH THE BOYS IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT!



IN ONE SENSE, SHE'S CLEVER...SHE'S PERSISTENT. SHE KNOWS THAT THE PLACE TO MEET A MAN IS WHERE MEN ARE...NOT IN LITTLE HEN PARTIES! BUT SHE'S MUCH TOO EAGER. NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN, ALL HER EFFORTS RESULT IN AN INVITATION...**TO LOOK FOR ANOTHER JOB!**

THE END

I TOYED WITH *Love*

I NEVER MEANT TO DECEIVE MATT! BUT LOVING HIM AS I DID, HOW COULD I RESIST THOSE LITTLE WHITE LIES THAT MADE ME THE **GIRL OF HIS DREAMS?** BUT I DISCOVERED THERE **IS** NO SUCH THING AS A **LITTLE** LIE... AND THAT EVEN **LOVE** COULDN'T BEAR THE LOAD OF MY FALSEHOODS!

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT, DORRIE! I'VE BEEN WASTING TIME WITH EVERY GIRL IN TOWN, AND **YOU'VE** BEEN SITTING RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE, WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED... THE ONE GIRL IN THE WORLD WHO THINKS, FEELS, ALMOST BREATHES THE WAY I DO!
"DISCOVERED.."? HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M REALLY LIKE! BUT IT CAN'T MATTER... WHEN I LOVE HIM SO MUCH!

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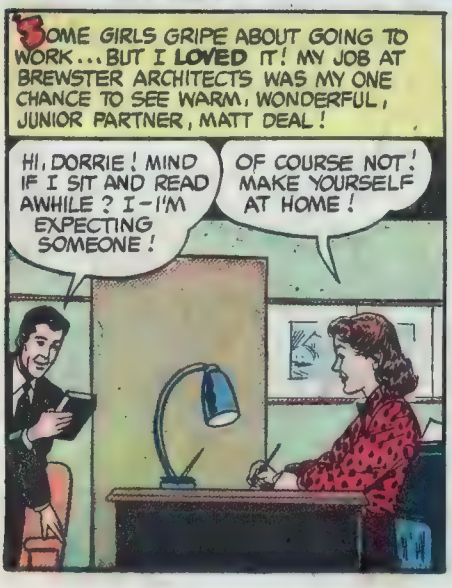
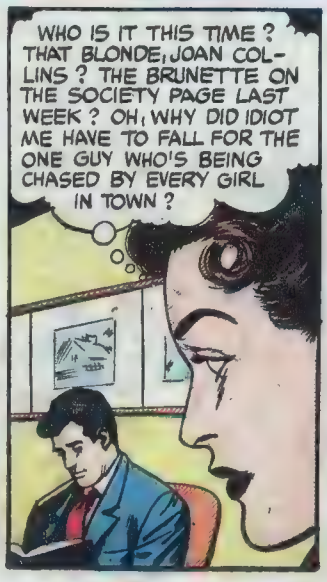

SOME GIRLS GRIPE ABOUT GOING TO WORK... BUT I **LOVED** IT! MY JOB AT BREWSTER ARCHITECTS WAS MY ONE CHANCE TO SEE WARM, WONDERFUL, JUNIOR PARTNER, MATT DEAL!
HI, DORRIE! MIND IF I SIT AND READ AWHILE? I—I'M EXPECTING SOMEONE!
OF COURSE NOT! MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!


WHO IS IT THIS TIME? THAT BLONDE, JOAN COLLINS? THE BRUNETTE ON THE SOCIETY PAGE LAST WEEK? OH, WHY DID IDIOT ME HAVE TO FALL FOR THE ONE GUY WHO'S BEING CHASED BY EVERY GIRL IN TOWN?

HI, MATT! SORRY I KEPT YOU WAITING!
SO IT **IS** JOAN AGAIN! SHE'S GORGEOUS... AND THAT DRESS! OH, WHAT'S THE USE OF DREAMING? I JUST DON'T STAND A CHANCE!

WELL, LET'S GO, JOAN! GOOD NIGHT, DORRIE!
GOOD NIGHT --- WAIT, MR. DEAL! YOUR BOOK!
"BUT MATT WAS ALREADY OUT THE DOOR!
"ALL OUR TOMORROWS"! SOMERSET JONES' LATEST...THE ONE THE CRITICS SAID WAS SO HARD TO UNDERSTAND! I'LL RETURN IT IN THE MORNING...IT'S A CHANCE TO SAY MORE THAN HELLO AND GOODBYE!
BUT HOW MUCH MORE? "YOUR BOOK", I'LL SAY, AND HE'LL REPLY, "THANK YOU!" AND THAT'LL BE THE END! MAYBE IF I WORE MY NEW GREEN DRESS... OR MOM'S ANTIQUE EARRINGS...
ALL OUR TOMORROWS — JONES
YES, THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO... SOME WAY TO MAKE HIM REALIZE I'M ALIVE! BUT WHAT? WHAT COULD BE WORLD-SHAKING ABOUT RETURNING A BOOK?
"OH, I KNOW IT WAS JUST A RIDICULOUS DAYDREAM! BUT DAYDREAMS WERE ALL I HAD...UNTIL THE NEXT DAY---
SO THIS IS WHERE I LEFT MY BOOK! THANKS, DORRIE!
HE NEVER EVEN SAW MY EARRINGS! AND IN A MINUTE HE'LL BE GONE... UNLESS I THINK OF SOMETHING, NOW!
"AND THEN, SUDDENLY, IT CAME TO ME!
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND, MR. DEAL, BUT...I TOOK THE CHANCE TO BROWSE THROUGH IT! SOMERSET JONES HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY FAVORITE AUTHOR!
HONESTLY? AND EVERYONE CLAIMS HE'S SO TOUGH! DID YOU READ HIS FIRST BOOK?
MMMM...!
GOSH, IT'S UNCANNY, FINDING ANOTHER JONES FAN RIGHT HERE IN THE OFFICE! SAY... WHY NOT KEEP THE BOOK TILL YOU'RE DONE?
"SO MY PLAN TOOK ROOT! BUT THERE WAS STILL THAT BOOK TO READ...AND THE NEXT EVENING -
HATE TO INTERRUPT, SIS, BUT DID YOU WANT ME TO PIN UP THE HEM OF THE DRESS YOU'RE MAKING?
NOT TONIGHT, ANN! I'M TRYING TO GET THROUGH ANOTHER CHAPTER!

ARE YOU STILL TACKLING THAT FOOL BOOK? PHONY TACTICS WON'T WIN HIM... SOME DAY, HE'LL HAVE TO LEARN, WHAT YOU'RE REALLY LIKE!
I'LL WORRY ABOUT SOME DAY WHEN THE TIME COMES! RIGHT NOW, I WANT HIM TO KNOW ---I EXIST!
YES, I'D CHOSEN MY ROAD... AND LATER THAT WEEK, I TOOK THE NEXT STEP!
THANKS AGAIN FOR THE BOOK..! AND INCIDENTALLY, I JUST SAW YOUR PLANS FOR THE NEW WENDELL HOME! THEY'RE OUT OF THIS WORLD!
THANKS! COULD YOU REALLY TELL, FROM THE BLUE-PRINTS?
I GOT THE GENERAL IDEA! I ADMIT, I WAS WONDERING ABOUT THE COLOR SCHEME!...IF YOU EVER HAVE TIME TO TELL ME...!
I HAVE THE TIME RIGHT NOW! LET'S TALK IT OVER AT DINNER!
"IT WAS A SIMPLE DINNER, IN A QUIET PLACE! BUT JUST FEELING MATT'S EYES ON ME, MADE IT THE MOST THRILLING EVENING OF MY LIFE!
...AND THE ROOF, OF COURSE, WILL BE BLUE SLATE---!
IT'S REALLY HAPPENING! IT'S NOT MAKE-BE-LIEVE ANY MORE!
WHAT'S THAT?
OH, YES, OF COURSE! WONDERFUL IDEA!
I KNEW YOU'D THINK SO! IT'S SO STRANGE, DORRIE... THE WAY WE AGREE ON THE LITTLE THINGS, AS WELL AS THE BIG ONES!
YOU KNOW, DORRIE... I NEVER COULD FIND THE RIGHT GIRL FOR ME! MAYBE THAT'S WHY I WENT OUT WITH SO MANY! BUT ALL THE TIME, YOU WERE THERE... JUST WAITING FOR ME TO DIS-COVER YOU, TO KNOW YOU...
...TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU, DORRIE!
ONLY HE DOESN'T KNOW ME... NOT THE REAL ME! BUT IT CAN'T MATTER...NOT WHEN I LOVE HIM SO MUCH!
3

"MATT TOOK ME EVERYWHERE IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED... LECTURES, CONCERTS, DRIVES!

I READ HIS BOOKS ...I SHARED HIS IDEAS! AND IN THE SHEER JOY OF BEING WITH HIM, IT WAS EASY TO FEIGN THE INTEREST I DIDN'T ALWAYS FEEL!

"AND ON WEEK-ENDS...

THIS IS THE LIFE! NO NOISES, NO CROWDS... JUST US, AND THE WATER, AND THE SKY! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D FIND A GIRL WHO LOVES SAILING THE WAY I DO!

LOVE IT...? WHAT IF HE KNEW THAT JUST SITTING HERE MAKES ME SEASICK!

LOOKS LIKE THE WIND'S CHANGING! BETTER SWING THE JIB AROUND, DORRIE!

GOLLY, I **KNOW** MATT EXPLAINED THAT TO ME... BUT I WASN'T LISTENING!

COULD YOU SHOW ME, JUST ONCE MORE?

OF COURSE, DARLING! JUST LOOSEN THESE ROPES--- YOU'LL CATCH ON!

BUT I DON'T WANT TO CATCH ON! ANN WAS RIGHT! MATT DOESN'T LOVE **ME**... HE LOVES THE GIRL I'VE **PRETENDED** TO BE!

BUT IT'S BEEN GOING ON LONG ENOUGH! MAYBE, IF I ASKED HIM TO TAKE ME TO THE COMMUNITY DANCE, HE'D MEET MY FRIENDS, HEAR THE THINGS WE TALK ABOUT---FIND OUT WHAT I'M REALLY LIKE!

"IT TOOK ALL MY COURAGE TO MENTION THE DANCE! BUT I HAD TO DO IT... AND AS WE DROVE HOME...

ABOUT NEXT SATURDAY, HONEY... THERE'S A BIG GET-TOGETHER DOWN AT THE CNIC AUDITORIUM! I--I WAS HOPING WE COULD MAKE IT!

WHAT FOR?

YOU ALWAYS TOLD ME YOU **HATED** THOSE BIG AFFAIRS!

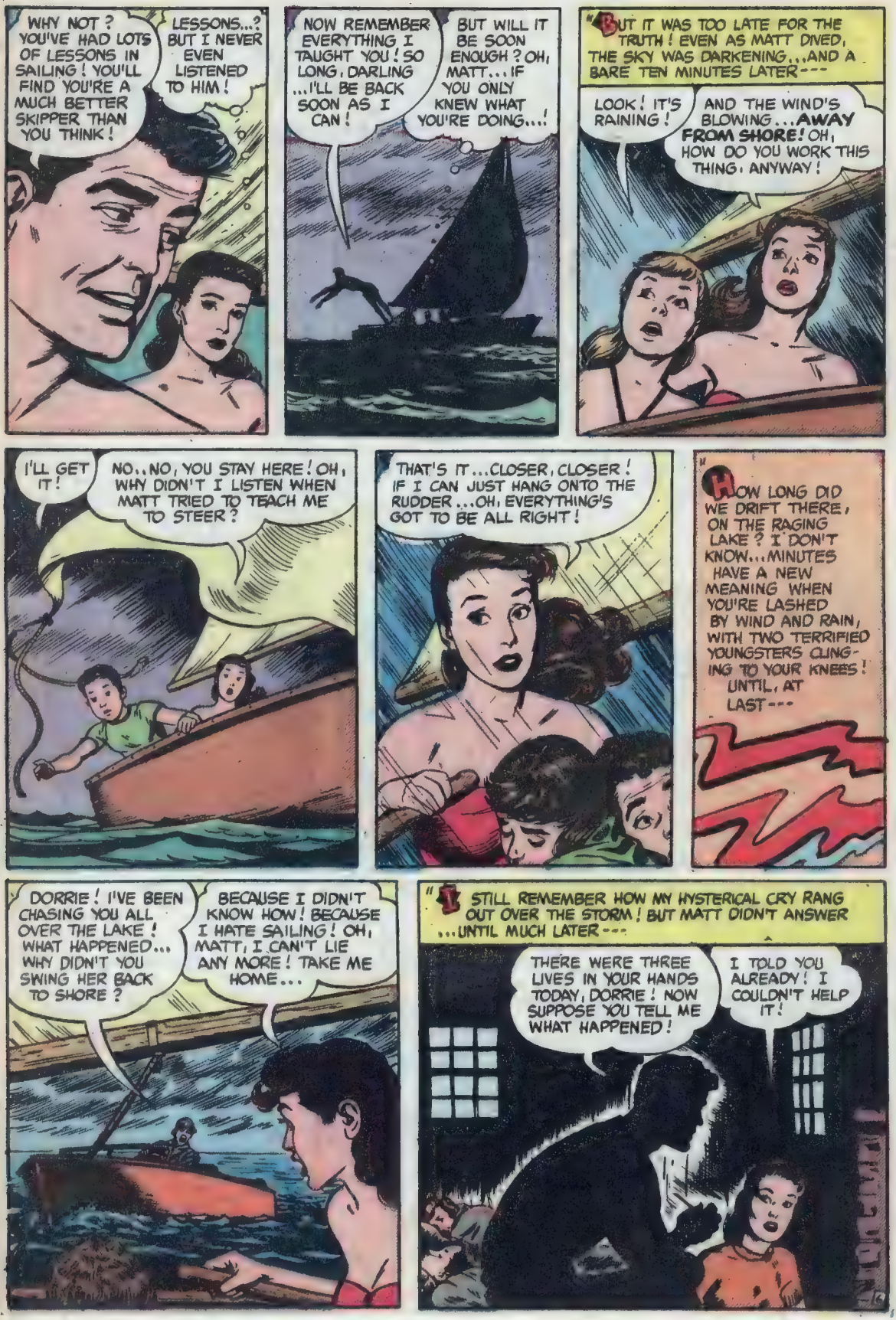
I--I KNOW! BUT... WELL, I WAS ON THE COMMITTEE FOR THIS ONE, SO I JUST HAVE TO SHOW UP! AND IT WON'T BE SO BAD! YOU'LL SEE... WE'LL HAVE LOTS OF FUN!

"BUT MY WISHFUL WORDS DIDN'T FOOL ANYONE! AND A WEEK LATER, I FOUND OUT I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE WRONG!

MAYBE **I** WAS PRETENDING, ABOUT HATING CROWDS... BUT **HE** WASN'T! HE'S NOT EVEN TRYING TO ENJOY HIMSELF!

WHEW! HOW CAN THEY SQUEEZE ALL THESE PEOPLE INTO ONE ROOM?

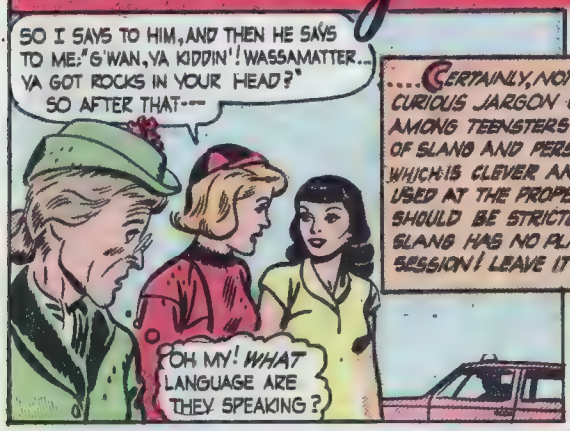
HI, DORRIE! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN KEEPING YOURSELF? WE MISSED YOU AT THE LAST SQUARE DANCE!
ER... I'VE BEEN PRETTY BUSY!
CURLED UP WITH A GOOD BOOK OR SOMETHING? DON'T GIVE US THAT LINE... WE KNOW YOU TOO WELL!
ARE THEY REALLY YOUR FRIENDS, DORRIE? YOU'RE NOTHING AT ALL LIKE THEM!
N-NO... THEY'RE JUST SOME PEOPLE I HAPPEN TO KNOW! LET'S GO, MATT... WE'VE BEEN HERE LONG ENOUGH!
"I WAS TOO UPSET TO SPEAK AS WE WENT OUT! BUT MATT MISINTERPRETED MY SILENCE!
ANNOYED, AREN'T YOU, DARLING? SO AM I... FOR THE SAME REASON! IMAGINE US WASTING A WHOLE PRECIOUS EVENING IN THERE!
BUT WE'LL MAKE UP FOR IT! I'M TAKING MY NIECE AND NEPHEW SAILING NEXT WEEK! THEY'RE SWELL KIDS... AND I KNOW THEY'LL BE CRAZY ABOUT YOU! WHY NOT COME ALONG?
SAILING... STILL MORE OF MY MISERABLE PLAY-ACTING AT BEING SOMEONE I'M NOT? NO, MATT... NOT THAT!
"ON THAT MOMENT, I WAS READY TO BLURT OUT THE WHOLE WRETCHED STORY, BUT I PAUSED AN INSTANT ---AND...
LAST SPRING, WE WENT WITH JOAN COLLINS! THE KIDS SURE TOOK TO HER!
JOAN...! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN!
BUT I BET **SHE HASN'T!** HER TYPE IS ALWAYS WAITING AND READY TO TAKE OVER... IF I JUST GAVE HER THE CHANCE!
OF COURSE I'LL COME, WE-WE'LL HAVE A FINE TIME!
"SO MY OPPORTUNITY PASSED! WOULD I HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY IF I'D KNOWN HOW THAT TERRIBLE SUNDAY WAS TO TURN OUT?
MMM... PEACEFUL OUT HERE, ISN'T IT?
TOO PEACEFUL! THERE HASN'T BEEN A LICK OF WIND FOR A HALF-HOUR! I'M GETTING WORRIED!
THIS LAKE IS TRICKY! DEAD CALM IS USUALLY A WARNING OF ROUGH WEATHER AHEAD! AND I'D HATE TO BE CAUGHT IN IT, WITH THE KIDS ABOARD! MAYBE IF I SWAM ASHORE AND CAME BACK WITH A MOTOR...
AND **LEAVE ME ALONE?**


WHY NOT? YOU'VE HAD LOTS OF LESSONS IN SAILING! YOU'LL FIND YOU'RE A MUCH BETTER SKIPPER THAN YOU THINK!
LESSONS...? BUT I NEVER EVEN LISTENED TO HIM!
NOW REMEMBER EVERYTHING I TAUGHT YOU! SO LONG, DARLING ...I'LL BE BACK SOON AS I CAN!
BUT WILL IT BE SOON ENOUGH? OH, MATT... IF YOU ONLY KNEW WHAT YOU'RE DOING...!
"BUT IT WAS TOO LATE FOR THE TRUTH! EVEN AS MATT DIVED, THE SKY WAS DARKENING...AND A BARE TEN MINUTES LATER---
LOOK! IT'S RAINING!
AND THE WIND'S BLOWING...AWAY FROM SHORE! OH, HOW DO YOU WORK THIS THING, ANYWAY!
I'LL GET IT!
NO..NO, YOU STAY HERE! OH, WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN WHEN MATT TRIED TO TEACH ME TO STEER?
THAT'S IT...CLOSER, CLOSER! IF I CAN JUST HANG ONTO THE RUDDER...OH, EVERYTHING'S GOT TO BE ALL RIGHT!
"HOW LONG DID WE DRIFT THERE, ON THE RAGING LAKE? I DON'T KNOW...MINUTES HAVE A NEW MEANING WHEN YOU'RE LASHED BY WIND AND RAIN, WITH TWO TERRIFIED YOUNGSTERS CLINGING TO YOUR KNEES! UNTIL, AT LAST---
DORRIE! I'VE BEEN CHASING YOU ALL OVER THE LAKE! WHAT HAPPENED... WHY DIDN'T YOU SWING HER BACK TO SHORE?
BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW HOW! BECAUSE I HATE SAILING! OH, MATT, I CAN'T LIE ANY MORE! TAKE ME HOME...
"I STILL REMEMBER HOW MY HYSTERICAL CRY RANG OUT OVER THE STORM! BUT MATT DIDN'T ANSWER ...UNTIL MUCH LATER---
THERE WERE THREE LIVES IN YOUR HANDS TODAY, DORRIE! NOW SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!
I TOLD YOU ALREADY! I COULDN'T HELP IT!

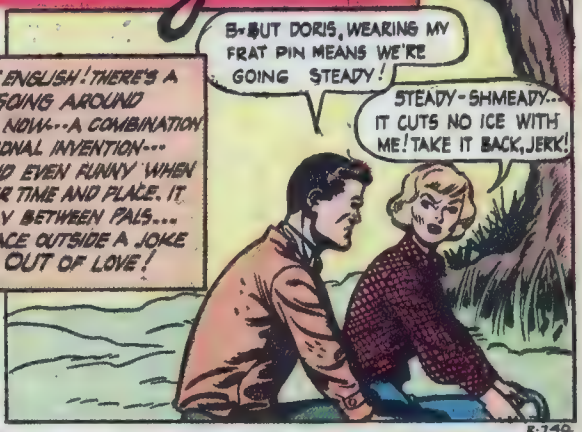
I HATE SAILING! I LIED ABOUT IT... JUST AS I LIED ABOUT JONES' BOOK, AND ABOUT BEING INTERESTED IN THE WENDELL HOME! ALL THE TIME YOU THOUGHT I WAS THE GIRL OF YOUR DREAMS, I WAS ONLY PRETENDING---!
BUT...WHY, DORRIE?
BECAUSE---OH, DON'T YOU SEE? I LOVED YOU SO TERRIBLY MUCH, MATT! I COULDN'T GO ON WORSHIPPING YOU IN SECRET! I HAD TO MAKE YOU NOTICE ME, SOMEHOW...TO KNOW YOU LOVED ME IN RETURN!
LOVE YOU? BUT DO I? I'M NOT SURE, ANY MORE!
I KNOW I LOVED SOMEONE... WITH YOUR FACE, YOUR NAME! BUT WAS SHE YOU? OR WAS SHE JUST A MIRROR...AN EMPTY ECHO OF EVERYTHING I'VE EVER SAID OR DONE?
YES, I FOUND THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS...BUT SHE TURNED OUT TO BE A MIRAGE! I-I'LL ARRANGE TO HAVE YOU TAKEN HOME, DORRIE! GOOD-BYE...AND THANKS! IT WAS FUN...WHILE IT LASTED!
BUT IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS...NOT WHEN I LOVE HIM SO!
BUT IT WAS TOO LATE NOW FOR LOVE TO CHANGE THE PICTURE! AND IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED...
THERE HE GOES AGAIN...WITHOUT EVEN A WORD! OH, ANN TRIED TO TELL ME I WAS CHEATING! IF ONLY I'D LISTENED!
"ANN! SHE'D BEEN RIGHT BEFORE ...MAYBE SHE COULD HELP ME!
I'LL NEVER GET OVER HIM, ANN! THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO GET HIM BACK!
THERE'S NEVER A SURE WAY IN LOVE, DORRIE...!
BUT MAYBE, IF YOU COULD OPEN HIS EYES...LET HIM DISCOVER THAT DREAM-GIRL OR NOT, YOU'VE STILL GOT PLENTY OF GOOD POINTS ON YOUR OWN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
LET HIM KNOW THE SWELL KID YOU REALLY ARE! OFFER TO HELP WITH THAT PARTY AT THE OFFICE FOR THE GIRL WHO'S GETTING MARRIED! YOU'RE SO HANDY---YOU MAKE THE CUTEST DECORATIONS! HE MIGHT NOTICE... AND IT'S A CHANCE TO BE YOURSELF AGAIN!

I ADMIT, I COULDN'T PIN MY HOPES TO ANN'S IDEA... BUT IT WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING!
AND AT LEAST, THE PLANNING AND PAINTING AND TRIMMING TOOK MY MIND OFF MATT! UNTIL, AT LAST--
YOU DID A LOVELY JOB, DORRIE! THIS IS SUCH FUN!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, DORRIE. IT'S A WONDERFUL PARTY!
QUITE A PARTY... FOR EVERYONE BUT ME! MATT HASN'T EVEN LOOKED AT ME! BUT I'VE GOT TO TALK TO HIM--- EVEN IF HE LAUGHS IN MY FACE!
H-HELLO, MATT! SANDWICH...?
THANKS! I-I WAS JUST ADMIRING YOUR DECORATIONS! YOU NEVER TOLD ME YOU PAINTED!
OH, IT'S JUST A HOBBY! I MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED IT, BUT... YOU WERE ALWAYS SO BUSY. I DIDN'T WANT TO BOTHER YOU!
BOTHER...? BUT I WOULD HAVE BEEN GLAD... I WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU!
ONLY---MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! MAYBE I WAS SO PLEASED AT FINDING MYSELF REFLECTED IN ANOTHER PERSON ...I NEVER TRIED TO KNOW THE REAL DORRIE!
YOU KNEW ONE THING ... THAT I LOVED YOU! THAT WAS THE ONLY REASON BEHIND MY PRETENSES!
AND I LOVE YOU, DORRIE! SO---LET'S GET ACQUAINTED... FOR REAL!
THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT! SHALL WE DANCE?
MATT COULD FEEL ME TREMBLING AS HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS... BUT I WAS TOO THRILLED TO CARE!
I SEE I'M GOING TO LEARN A LOT FROM YOU, DORRIE! I'VE LEARNED ALREADY THAT PARTIES AREN'T HALF BAD, WHEN YOU'RE WITH THE RIGHT GIRL!
AND SOMETHING TELLS ME I'M WITH HER RIGHT NOW! HELLO, DREAM-GIRL!
NO, NOT DREAM-GIRL! JUST PLAIN DORRIE... BUT ALWAYS YOUR GIRL!
THE END

Watch Your Tongue!


SO I SAYS TO HIM, AND THEN HE SAYS TO ME: "G'WAN, YA KIDDIN'! WASSAMATTER... YA GOT ROCKS IN YOUR HEAD?" SO AFTER THAT---
OH MY! WHAT LANGUAGE ARE THEY SPEAKING?

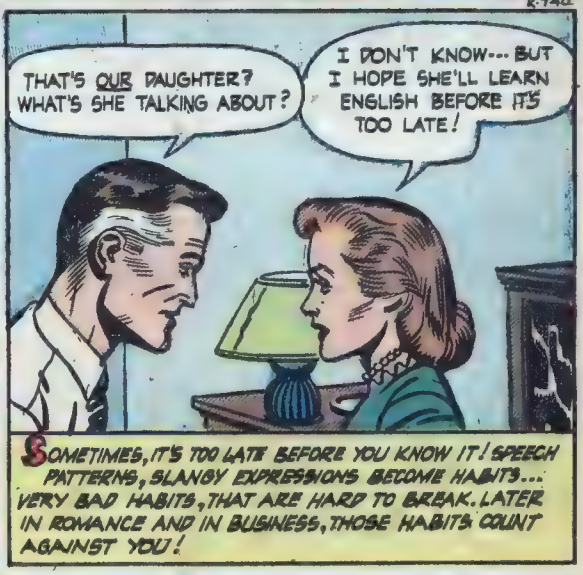
....CERTAINLY, NOT ENGLISH! THERE'S A CURIOUS JARGON GOING AROUND AMONG TEENSTERS NOW---A COMBINATION OF SLANG AND PERSONAL INVENTION--- WHICH IS CLEVER AND EVEN FUNNY WHEN USED AT THE PROPER TIME AND PLACE. IT SHOULD BE STRICTLY BETWEEN PALS... SLANG HAS NO PLACE OUTSIDE A JOKE SESSION! LEAVE IT OUT OF LOVE!



R-140

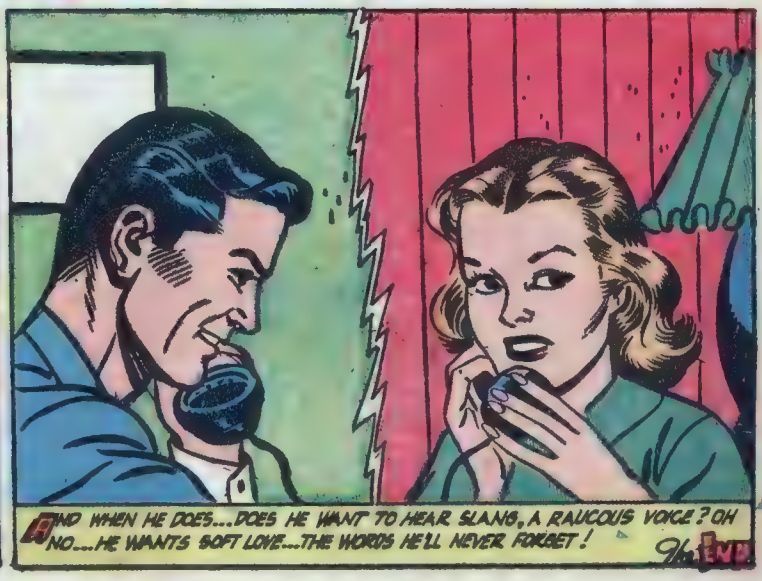
CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT "SMART-ALEC" CHATTER SOUNDS LIKE OVER A TELEPHONE?

WELL ANYHOW, ON ACCOUNTA BECAUSE HE'S SUCH A SQUARE, I GAVE HIM BACK HIS FRAT PIN! HE CAN GO DIG UP A FRAIL SOMEPLACE ELSE! ME, I'M COASTING FOR THE BIG TIME---A GUY WITH A CONVERTIBLE, AT LEAST!



SOMETIMES, IT'S TOO LATE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! SPEECH PATTERNS, SLANGY EXPRESSIONS BECOME HABITS... VERY BAD HABITS, THAT ARE HARD TO BREAK. LATER IN ROMANCE AND IN BUSINESS, THOSE HABITS COUNT AGAINST YOU!

...BECAUSE THE MEMORY OF A VOICE LINGERS ON! A BOY CARRIES HIS GIRL'S PICTURE...AND THE SOUND OF HER VOICE, WHEREVER HE GOES...



AND WHEN HE DOES...DOES HE WANT TO HEAR SLANG, A RAUCOUS VOICE? OH NO....HE WANTS SOFT LOVE...THE WORDS HE'LL NEVER FORGET!

THE END

Love's LENGTHY Problem

By Mickey Marks

Brenda Cole Learns That There's Always a King for a Proper Queen!

AT sixteen Brenda Cole had still been hopeful that when anyone looked at her they would say she was tall and willowy. But when her nineteenth birthday came and went and she had taken a thorough appraisal of her physical attributes she had to admit that the willowy had vanished into limbo and all that remained was the fact that she was five feet eight inches tall in her stocking feet. Too tall, she thought every time she stood in front of her mirror. Awfully tall, she thought when she went to buy a dress.

"Like a giraffe!" she cried to her pert little cousin, Amy Peterson, who was spending spring holiday with her and was at the moment sprawled on the bed in Brenda's room, munching a raw carrot.

"Stop it! Giraffes have long necks and can't talk. Stop feeling so sorry for yourself," replied Amy. But although she spoke glibly she did indeed feel sorry for Brenda because Brenda was so sorry for herself.

"All right then, I'm a telegraph pole. Listen, Amy, you happen to be five feet two. You are the size and shape men want to cuddle and protect. Me? Don't you know that my date book is so blank the pages look like sad little ghosts?"

"Honestly, Brenda," Amy said, "you sound as if there weren't a man in the world your size or taller. After all, you're only. . . ."

"Don't remind me. When I go to a dance and someone asks me to dance with them half the time I'm eating crackers off their heads, or," and here Brenda sighed miserably, "or I could."

"But men grow tall these days. There are any number of fellows I could mention who are way over six feet and. . . ."

"Oh, sure!" Brenda said sarcastically, "certainly! All I have to do is go to basketball games and pick out the fellows who make the most baskets. How many would I like or who would like me? Anyway I'm not going to Myra's dance tomorrow night —and that is positively that!"

Amy bounced off the bed like a rubber ball. "So that's it! I knew you were leading up to something. That's ridiculous. How do you know there won't be someone special there. How do you know?"

"I do know. Meeting a tall, handsome stranger is something confined to fairy tales." And Brenda put her head down on the dressing table and began to cry.

Amy was sympathetic. Brenda really was letting her excess height get her down. She was developing a walloping complex that could spoil her chances of ever appearing natural and as full of fun as Amy knew she could be. Amy began to think. If a person felt self-conscious they looked and acted it. Suddenly she realized that that was what was wrong with her cousin. She acted ashamed of her height.

"Scaredy-cat! You're going to that dance if I have to hog-tie you and you're going the way I want you to go. Wipe your eyes and blow your nose. We're going shopping."

"What for?" Brenda asked tearfully.

"To make you look like the queen you could look; tall and proud. You've been mushing along in those canal boat flats for so long that your feet are out of shape and your ankles look heavy. You've also developed a debutante slouch that deceives no one. You will wear high heels and you will walk erect—do you hear? And even if a midget straight out of the circus asks you to dance, you will dance with him and not giggle. You listen to Amy and you'll find that life can be beautiful."

Brenda's tears dried and in their place was a flinty look. "So, my dearest cousin; my house guest wants to throw me to the lions. Aren't I tall enough without. . . . "

"You are and you're going to show people that it matters not a fig. Listen to me, Brenda Cole, there are homely girls who get fellows. There are girls who don't have half your looks. You've never given yourself a chance and you know it. You are not the retiring violet type, you are a tiger lily. Now will you come with me or shall I chloroform you and drag you to the shops?"

Brenda looked interested despite herself. "I'll try anything once."

The girls shopped all day and were busy that evening fixing hems and doing each other's hair and talking about Myra Lanson's dance for the following night.

THE big night finally arrived. When Brenda and Amy entered the Lanson's huge drawing room, which had been converted into a ball room for that night, Brenda was not unaware of the sensation she was causing. Amy had nudged her in the back, making her straighten up, and had whispered fiercely. "Look like a queen; regal, proud, tall and straight." Brenda did. She looked like a queen. She looked like the goddess Juno. As she stepped across the threshhold to shake hands with her host and hostess a man came hurrying across the dance floor to Myra's side and whispering something was presented to Brenda.

Magic was in the air as she gave him her hand and acknowledged the introduction. The gods were watching from Olympus. Venus had already told Eros to get his arrows ready as Brenda looked up, not down or at eye-level but *up* at the man she was being introduced to.

"Brenda Cole, this is Kirk Morely."

Eros, his chubby hand ready, put the arrow into his bow and with unfailing accuracy shot the arrow into Brenda's heart. Quickly he took another arrow and sent this missile into the core of Kirk's heart, too.

Amy watched as Kirk, who was a good head taller than Brenda, put his arm about her waist and danced her out into the center of the floor. She grinned with the satisfying, lip-smacking grin of the sly cat who has just polished off a most delectable bird. Amy was claimed at that moment and didn't see developments, but both Kirk and Brenda spent the entire evening together. They danced, they had midnight supper side by side. They danced again.

"Brenda, I may call on you, mayn't I?" Kirk asked as the orchestra played a particularly lovely waltz.

"I would love it, Kirk."

"You're a beautiful dancer, Brenda. In fact, you are probably the most beautiful girl I've ever seen."

Brenda looked up at him and the words came out that Amy had made her swear she would never say.

"Oh, no, Kirk. I'm too tall to be beautiful."

"Too tall!" Kirk's steps faltered. "Why, why, that's what makes you so perfect. I didn't want to come to this shindig. Do you want to know why?" Again his steps faltered. "Come on," he cried, "off the dance floor and to the patio. I want to talk to you."

The two slipped into the deserted patio. The place was dimly lit, flower-laden and made for romantic speeches. Kirk put his hands on Brenda's arms and looked hard at her. He looked so long that Brenda could feel a flush suffuse her cheeks. "You were saying . . . " she half whispered.

"I was saying that I didn't want to come to this dance. I hate dances. Most of the women are pygmies, at least for me. Do you realize I am six feet five? Do you know what it is to dance with a girl from whose head I could eat crackers if I had crackers on the girl's head to eat?"

Brenda could feel the laughter bubble inside her.

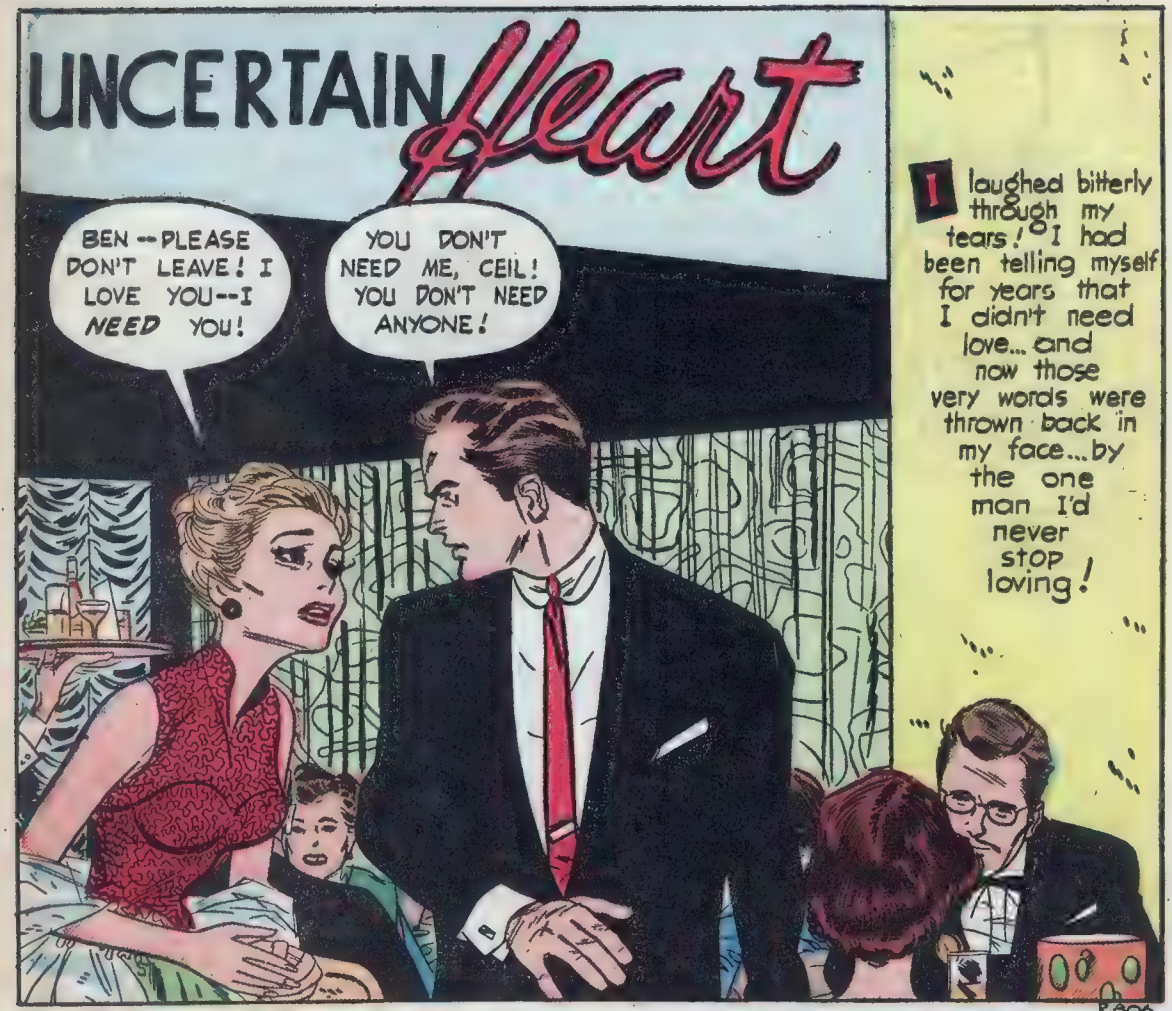
"I can dance with you. You're my size," he was saying. "Your chin fits under my chin and that's where chins are supposed to fit. I could walk down the street with you without feeling I look like a St. Bernard in the company of a Chihuahua. I . . . oh, Brenda, the minute you walked through the door I knew you were the girl for me. Please, please tell me you feel the same way about me."

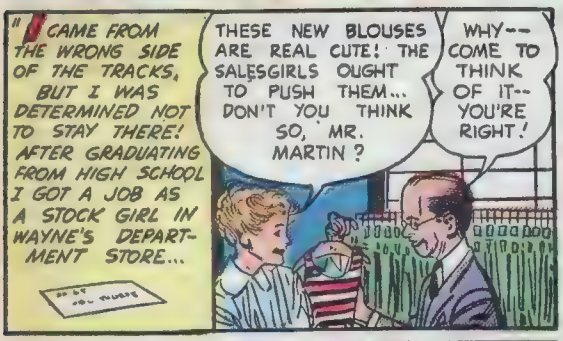
Brenda's voice was clear and sweet as she said: "I always dreamed of a man I could look up to, Kirk. Does that answer your question?"

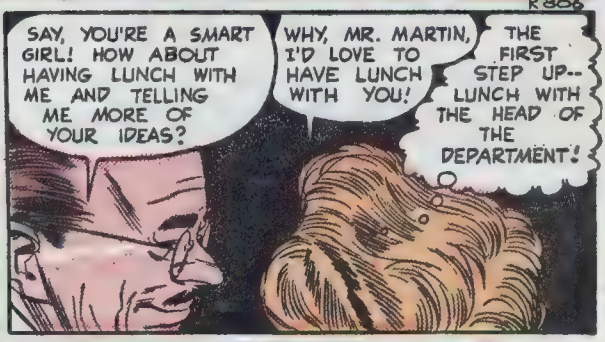
She knew it did when his arms went around her and his lips met hers.

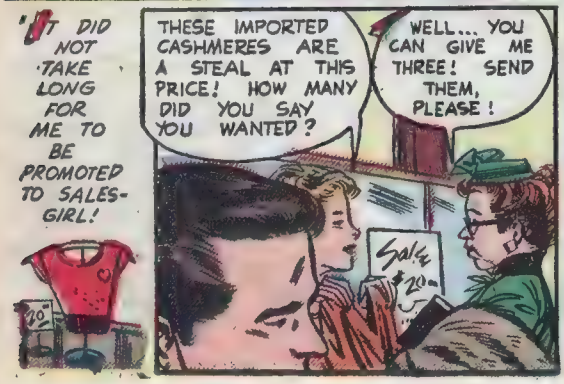
No one could have been more pleased than Amy when she heard about it. As she put it: "If you act like a queen you will certainly land a king."

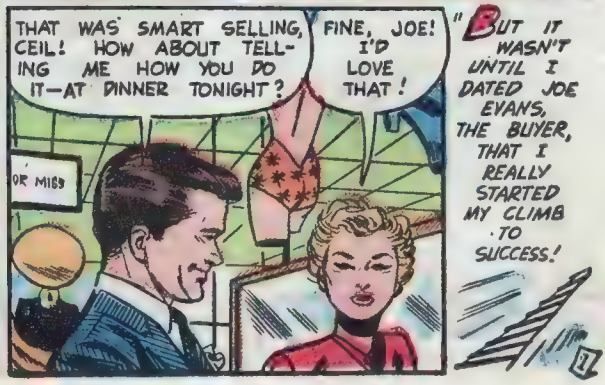
UNCERTAIN Heart

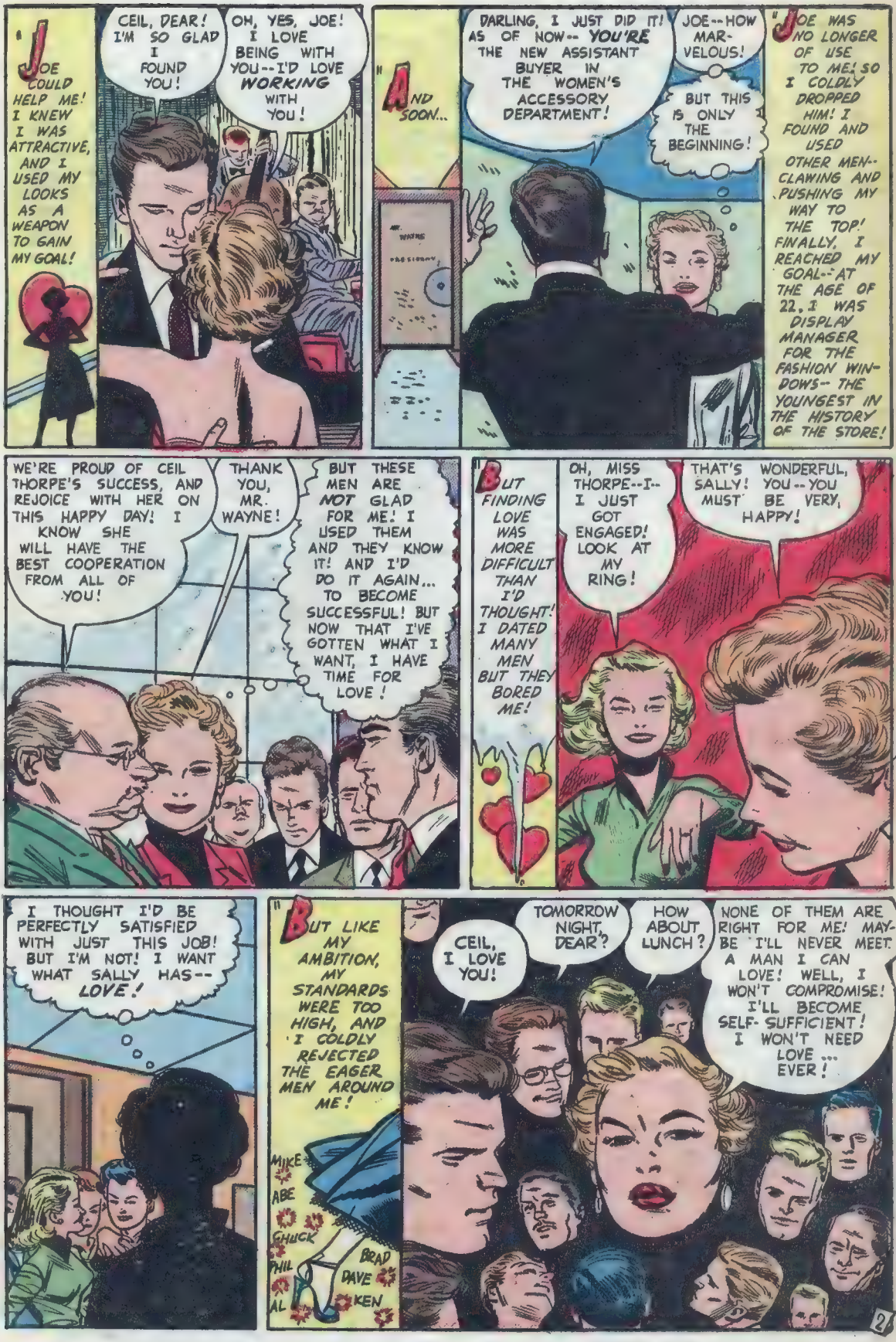

BEN--PLEASE DON'T LEAVE! I LOVE YOU--I NEED YOU!
YOU DON'T NEED ME, CEIL! YOU DON'T NEED ANYONE!
I laughed bitterly through my tears! I had been telling myself for years that I didn't need love... and now those very words were thrown back in my face... by the one man I'd never stop loving!
R. BOG


"I CAME FROM THE WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS, BUT I WAS DETERMINED NOT TO STAY THERE! AFTER GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL I GOT A JOB AS A STOCK GIRL IN WAYNE'S DEPARTMENT STORE...
THESE NEW BLOUSES ARE REAL CUTE! THE SALESGIRLS OUGHT TO PUSH THEM... DON'T YOU THINK SO, MR. MARTIN?
WHY--COME TO THINK OF IT--YOU'RE RIGHT!


SAY, YOU'RE A SMART GIRL! HOW ABOUT HAVING LUNCH WITH ME AND TELLING ME MORE OF YOUR IDEAS?
WHY, MR. MARTIN, I'D LOVE TO HAVE LUNCH WITH YOU!
THE FIRST STEP UP--LUNCH WITH THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT!


"IT DID NOT TAKE LONG FOR ME TO BE PROMOTED TO SALESGIRL!
THESE IMPORTED CASHMERES ARE A STEAL AT THIS PRICE! HOW MANY DID YOU SAY YOU WANTED?
WELL... YOU CAN GIVE ME THREE! SEND THEM, PLEASE!
Sale
$20-


THAT WAS SMART SELLING, CEIL! HOW ABOUT TELLING ME HOW YOU DO IT--AT DINNER TONIGHT?
FINE, JOE! I'D LOVE THAT!
"BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL I DATED JOE EVANS, THE BUYER, THAT I REALLY STARTED MY CLIMB TO SUCCESS!


JOE COULD HELP ME! I KNEW I WAS ATTRACTIVE, AND I USED MY LOOKS AS A WEAPON TO GAIN MY GOAL!
CEIL, DEAR! I'M SO GLAD I FOUND YOU!
OH, YES, JOE! I LOVE BEING WITH YOU--I'D LOVE WORKING WITH YOU!
AND SOON...
DARLING, I JUST DID IT! AS OF NOW-- YOU'RE THE NEW ASSISTANT BUYER IN THE WOMEN'S ACCESSORY DEPARTMENT!
JOE--HOW MARVELOUS!
BUT THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!
JOE WAS NO LONGER OF USE TO ME! SO I COLDLY DROPPED HIM! I FOUND AND USED OTHER MEN--CLAWING AND PUSHING MY WAY TO THE TOP! FINALLY, I REACHED MY GOAL--AT THE AGE OF 22. I WAS DISPLAY MANAGER FOR THE FASHION WINDOWS--THE YOUNGEST IN THE HISTORY OF THE STORE!
WE'RE PROUD OF CEIL THORPE'S SUCCESS, AND REJOICE WITH HER ON THIS HAPPY DAY! I KNOW SHE WILL HAVE THE BEST COOPERATION FROM ALL OF YOU!
THANK YOU, MR. WAYNE!
BUT THESE MEN ARE NOT GLAD FOR ME! I USED THEM AND THEY KNOW IT! AND I'D DO IT AGAIN... TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL! BUT NOW THAT I'VE GOTTEN WHAT I WANT, I HAVE TIME FOR LOVE!
BUT FINDING LOVE WAS MORE DIFFICULT THAN I'D THOUGHT! I DATED MANY MEN BUT THEY BORED ME!
OH, MISS THORPE--I--I JUST GOT ENGAGED! LOOK AT MY RING!
THAT'S WONDERFUL, SALLY! YOU--YOU MUST BE VERY, HAPPY!
I THOUGHT I'D BE PERFECTLY SATISFIED WITH JUST THIS JOB! BUT I'M NOT! I WANT WHAT SALLY HAS--LOVE!
BUT LIKE MY AMBITION, MY STANDARDS WERE TOO HIGH, AND I COLDLY REJECTED THE EAGER MEN AROUND ME!
MIKE
ABE
CHUCK
PHIL
AL
BRAD
DAVE
KEN
CEIL, I LOVE YOU!
TOMORROW NIGHT, DEAR?
HOW ABOUT LUNCH?
NONE OF THEM ARE RIGHT FOR ME! MAYBE I'LL NEVER MEET A MAN I CAN LOVE! WELL, I WON'T COMPROMISE! I'LL BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT! I WON'T NEED LOVE ... EVER!

I DEVOTED MYSELF COMPLETELY TO MY WORK! MY WINDOW DISPLAYS BECAME THE TALK OF THE TOWN, AND I WAS THE MOST EFFICIENT WORKER AT WAYNES! I DIDN'T HAVE LOVE, BUT I'D CONVINCED MYSELF THAT I WANTED IT THAT WAY--UNTIL I MET BEN...
THIS IS BEN WILLIAMS--OUR NEW MERCHANDISING MANAGER, CEIL! AND CEIL THORPE IS OUR HEAD OF DISPLAY! YOU TWO WILL BE WORKING TOGETHER SO I'D LIKE YOU TO GET ACQUAINTED!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE PLEASANT WORK! HOW ABOUT STARTING AT LUNCH?
WELL, IT'S OKAY WITH ME!
HE'S DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS AROUND HERE!
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I ENJOYED MYSELF AS MUCH AS I DID THAT DAY! BEN WAS CLEVER... CHARMING!
I ENJOYED THIS HOUR, CEIL!
YOU SOUND SURPRISED! DIDN'T YOU EXPECT TO?
I DON'T KNOW! MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF YOU WAS OF A COLD, AMBITIOUS CAREER GIRL! BUT I THINK I WAS WRONG!
NO-- I'M NOT COLD, BEN!
YOU CERTAINLY ARE NOT COLD!
OHHH!
THE TOUCH OF HIS LIPS SENT MY HEAD REELING! FROM THAT MOMENT ON WE WERE INSEPARABLE AND LIFE BECAME WONDERFUL, UNTIL...
CEIL, JOE JUST TOLD ME YOU ORDERED THAT SALE OF NYLON BLOUSES! HOW DARE YOU GIVE AN ORDER LIKE THAT? THAT MISTAKE WILL COST US HUNDREDS!
DON'T GET EXCITED, DARLING! I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!
OH, YES-- YOU ALWAYS KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! WELL, THIS TIME YOU WERE WRONG! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE INTERFERED IN MY DEPARTMENT!
I AM NOT WRONG! I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP YOU OUT! AND YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO SHOUT AT ME!
CEIL... BEN...
WHOSE IDEA WAS THE BLOUSE SALE? IT WAS GREAT-- THEY'RE SELLING LIKE HOT CAKES!
WHAT? IT WAS CEIL'S IDEA, MR. WAYNE! CHALK UP ANOTHER VICTORY FOR HER!
BEN--!
3

I COULDN'T LET BEN STAY ANGRY! HE WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE WORLD TO ME! HE WAS THE MAN I WANTED TO MARRY!
DARLING, I'M SORRY! REALLY I AM!
SORRY YOU WERE RIGHT? NO, CEIL, I WAS WRONG! AND MY PRIDE WAS HURT, I GUESS!
BUT I LOVE YOU TOO MUCH TO STAY PEEVED!
OH, DARLING... DARLING!
AFTER THE RIFT, OUR LOVE WAS STRONGER THAN EVER! I EXPECTED BEN TO PROPOSE ALMOST MOMENTARILY, BUT HE DIDN'T! WORK WAS NO LONGER IMPORTANT...ONLY ONE THING WAS.. WHY DIDN'T BEN PROPOSE?
CEIL, YOU FORGOT TO ORDER THOSE NEW MANNIKINS! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT YOU FORGOT ANYTHING!
I'M--I'M SORRY, MR. WAYNE!
I--I'D BETTER CONCENTRATE MORE ON MY WORK! I MUST GET AN IDEA FOR MY NEXT WINDOW DISPLAY! MAYBE TONIGHT BEN WILL PROPOSE--!
I REALLY EXPECTED THAT NIGHT TO BE THE NIGHT, BECAUSE BEN INSISTED WE GO TO THE SWANK MARDI GRAS CLUB! BUT, AS THE EVENING PROGRESSED AND HE SAID NOTHING, I BEGAN TO BROOD ABOUT THE STORE...
... AND I'M SURE YOU REALIZE HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU...
OH DEAR, I'M NOT EVEN LISTENING TO HIM! AT THE STORE I CAN ONLY THINK OF HIM--AND WITH HIM, I WORRY ABOUT THE STORE! BUT I MUST GET A BANG-UP IDEA FOR THAT NEW DISPLAY...
I'VE GOT IT! MARDI GRAS! THAT'S A PERFECT IDEA!
... AND SO, DARLING, I... CEIL-- CEIL!
THE STORE AGAIN? EVEN WHEN I'M ABOUT TO PROPOSE, CEIL?
PROPOSE? OH, BEN, I'M SORRY! I HAD NO IDEA, DARLING! I JUST WASN'T LISTENING!
YOU DON'T NEED A HUSBAND--YOU DON'T NEED ANYONE! YOU'RE PERFECTLY COMPLETE JUST THE WAY YOU ARE-- AN EFFICIENT, KNOW-IT-ALL CAREER GIRL!
NO, BEN, NO! I DO NEED YOU! I LOVE YOU!
4

"We hurried out of the club and in vain, I pleaded!

You're wrong, darling, I'm *not* an efficient career girl! I love you so much... I've been in a daze -- making mistakes right and left!

No, Ceil! If you think of window displays while I propose, you don't need a husband -- you need your job, and you've got that!

I--I can't stop caring about you! We'll be good friends, but I couldn't marry a girl as calculating and business-like as you, Ceil!

I'll win him back... I *must!*

"Days of misery followed! Ben dated me, but never again mentioned marriage! Now, I was truly in a daze... only living in the hope of recapturing Ben's love!

Miss Thorpe? Where do you want the Mardi Gras sets?

Oh, put them down anywhere -- no, I mean put them near the front window!

I've got to prove my love to Ben! Oh, what can I do to make him believe that I love and *need* him?

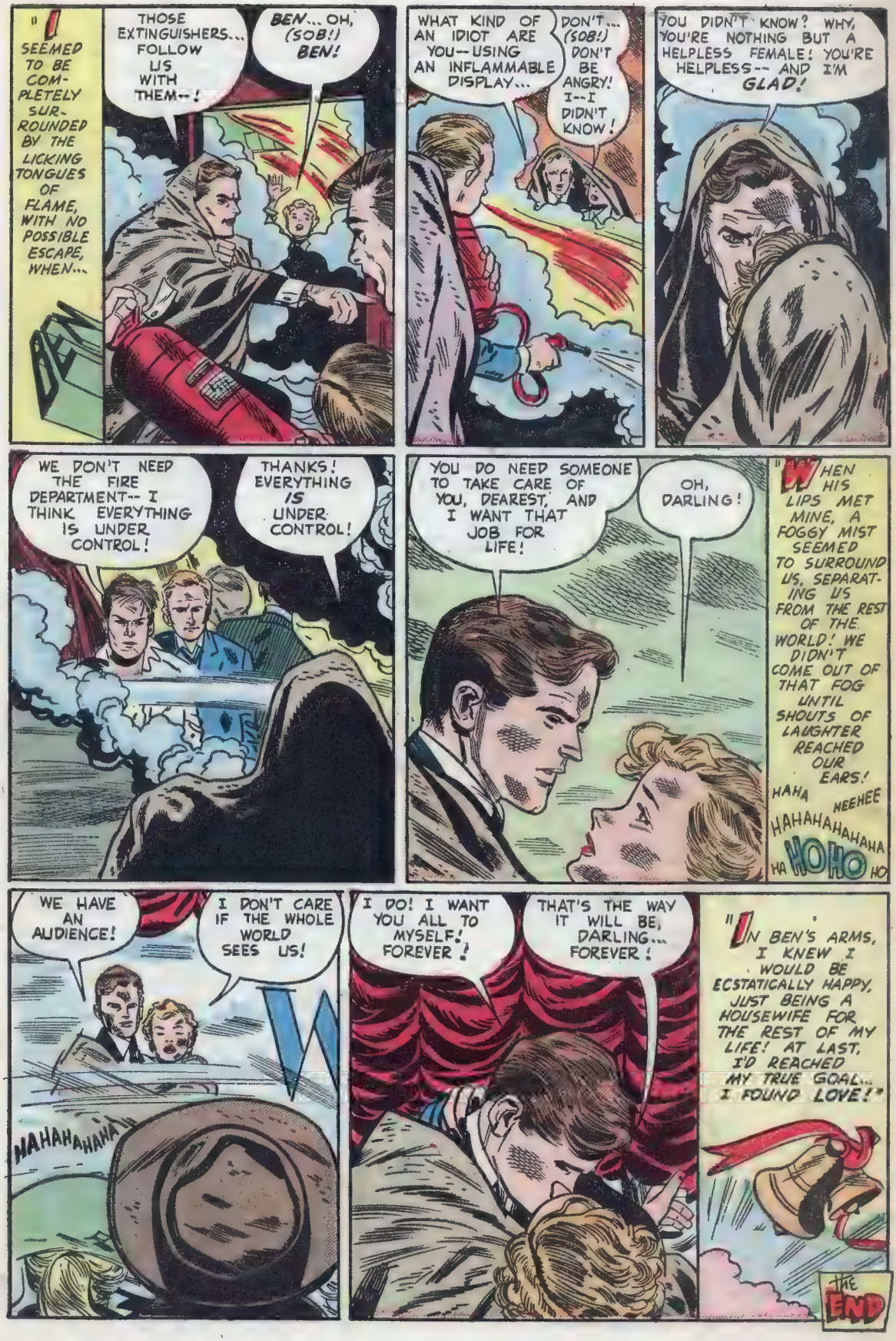
This needs some colored spotlights! I guess cellophane over the footlights will do the trick!

"When I say I didn't know what I was doing, I mean it literally! If I had, I would never have put those powerful lights so close to cellophane, because the next minute I was surrounded by flames...

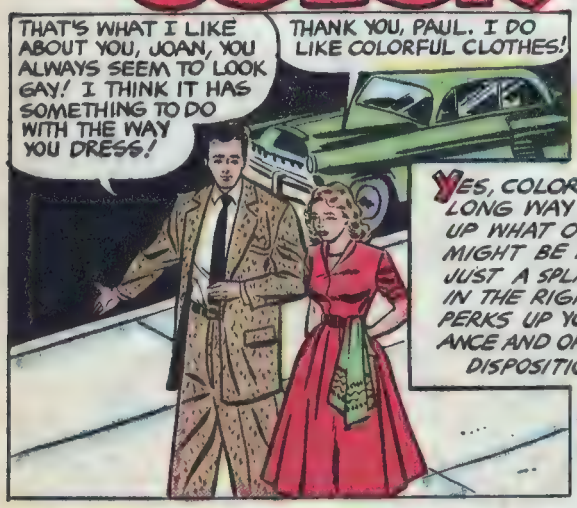
Ohhh! I-I'm trapped! Help!

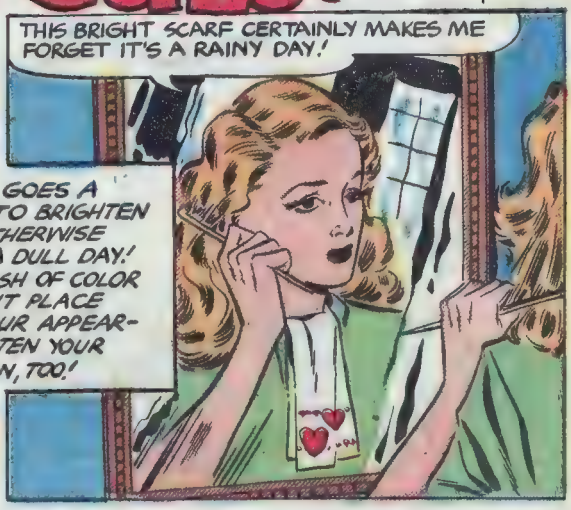
That girl -- she'll be killed!

Get some help -- hurry!

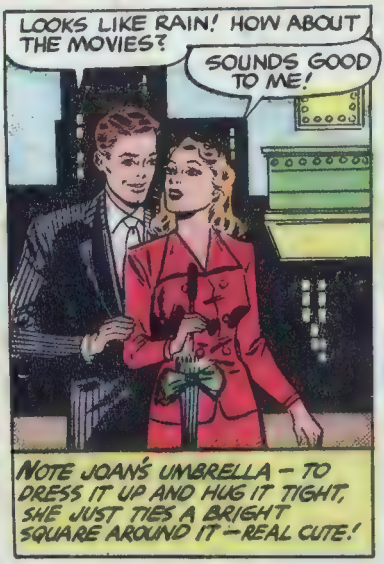

"I SEEMED TO BE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THE LICKING TONGUES OF FLAME, WITH NO POSSIBLE ESCAPE, WHEN...
BEN
THOSE EXTINGUISHERS... FOLLOW US WITH THEM--!
BEN... OH, (SOB!) BEN!
WHAT KIND OF AN IDIOT ARE YOU--USING AN INFLAMMABLE DISPLAY...
DON'T... (SOB!) DON'T BE ANGRY! I--I DIDN'T KNOW!
YOU DIDN'T KNOW? WHY, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A HELPLESS FEMALE! YOU'RE HELPLESS-- AND I'M GLAD!
WE DON'T NEED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT-- I THINK EVERYTHING IS UNDER CONTROL!
THANKS! EVERYTHING IS UNDER CONTROL!
YOU DO NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU, DEAREST, AND I WANT THAT JOB FOR LIFE!
OH, DARLING!
"WHEN HIS LIPS MET MINE, A FOGGY MIST SEEMED TO SURROUND US, SEPARATING US FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD! WE DIDN'T COME OUT OF THAT FOG UNTIL SHOUTS OF LAUGHTER REACHED OUR EARS!
HAHA
NEEHEE
HAHAHAHAHAHA
HA HOHO HO
WE HAVE AN AUDIENCE!
I DON'T CARE IF THE WHOLE WORLD SEES US!
HAHAHAHAHA
I DO! I WANT YOU ALL TO MYSELF! FOREVER!
THAT'S THE WAY IT WILL BE, DARLING... FOREVER!
"IN BEN'S ARMS, I KNEW I WOULD BE ECSTATICALLY HAPPY, JUST BEING A HOUSEWIFE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE! AT LAST, I'D REACHED MY TRUE GOAL... I FOUND LOVE!"
THE END

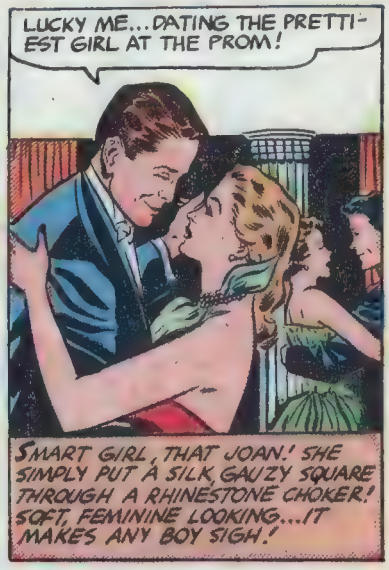
COLOR CUES!

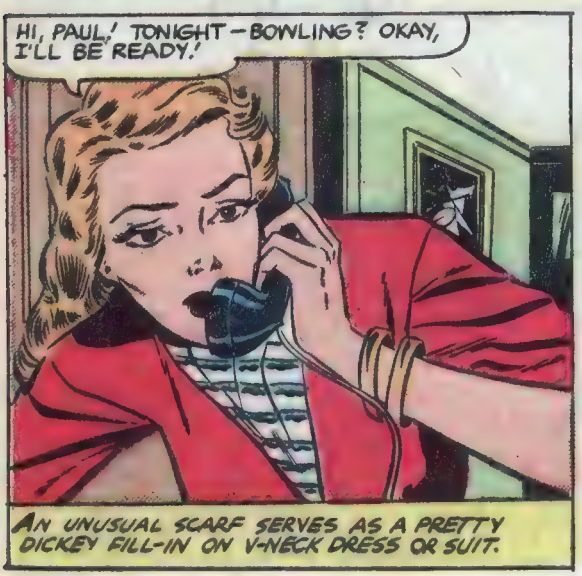

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, JOAN, YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO LOOK GAY! I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE WAY YOU DRESS!
THANK YOU, PAUL. I DO LIKE COLORFUL CLOTHES!
YES, COLOR GOES A LONG WAY TO BRIGHTEN UP WHAT OTHERWISE MIGHT BE A DULL DAY! JUST A SPLASH OF COLOR IN THE RIGHT PLACE PERKS UP YOUR APPEARANCE AND OFTEN YOUR DISPOSITION, TOO!


THIS BRIGHT SCARF CERTAINLY MAKES ME FORGET IT'S A RAINY DAY!

A LITTLE INGENUITY IS ALL YOU NEED FOR THAT BIT OF DIFFERENCE THAT MAKES YOU STAND OUT!
BORROWING YOUR DOG'S COLLAR, I SEE! CUTE IDEA, JOAN!
...AND A GAY HANKIE TUCKED INTO THE DOG COLLAR MAKES AN EYE-CATCHING BRACELET.


LOOKS LIKE RAIN! HOW ABOUT THE MOVIES?
SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!
NOTE JOAN'S UMBRELLA – TO DRESS IT UP AND HUG IT TIGHT, SHE JUST TIES A BRIGHT SQUARE AROUND IT – REAL CUTE!


LUCKY ME... DATING THE PRETTIEST GIRL AT THE PROM!
SMART GIRL, THAT JOAN! SHE SIMPLY PUT A SILK, GAUZY SQUARE THROUGH A RHINESTONE CHOKER! SOFT, FEMININE LOOKING... IT MAKES ANY BOY SIGH!


HI, PAUL! TONIGHT – BOWLING? OKAY, I'LL BE READY!
AN UNUSUAL SCARF SERVES AS A PRETTY DICKEY FILL-IN ON V-NECK DRESS OR SUIT.

CROSSED RIBBONS UNDER A COLLAR, MAKES AN EYE-APPEALING COLOR TREAT...
STRIKE! THAT'S M'GIRL! GOOD FOR YOU, HON!
ALLEY Nº12
YES, AND GOOD FOR JOAN, TOO, THAT SHE KNOWS HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF HER APPEARANCE!

GAME OF HEARTS!

NO DATE TONIGHT EITHER, BETTY? WHAT'S HAPPENED? I CAN REMEMBER WHEN THE PHONE NEVER STOPPED RINGING!

I DON'T KNOW, MOM. I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT!

I THOUGHT EVERYTHING WOULD BLOW OVER AND BE FORGOTTEN LONG BEFORE THIS!

"UP UNTIL NOW-- I GUESS I'D BEEN JUST ABOUT THE MOST POPULAR GIRL IN TOWN. IN FACT, MY HOBBY WAS COLLECTING FRATERNITY PINS! THE TROUBLE STARTED A WEEK AGO...

DON'T FORGET, BETTY, WE HAVE A BOWLING DATE WEDNESDAY!

AND FRIDAY, THE MOVIES WITH ME!

AND I'M TAKING YOU TO THE COUNTRY CLUB DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT!

DON'T WORRY, BOYS, I HAVE EVERYTHING STRAIGHT. AND NOW, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME, LARRY IS COMING TO HELP ME WITH MATH!

R-734

TWO HOURS LATER...

OH LARRY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D HAVE DONE WITHOUT YOU. NOW I HAVE A CHANCE OF PASSING THE TEST! YOU'RE A WHIZ AT MATH!

I WAS GLAD TO HELP YOU, BETTY. BUT IF YOU WANT TO DO ME A FAVOR--LET ME TAKE YOU TO THE DANCE ON SATURDAY!

TRIGONOMETRY

MATHEMATICS

SATURDAY? BUT I HAVE... I MEAN, YOU'VE BEEN SO VERY SWEET... I'D LOVE TO GO WITH YOU!

SWELL, BETTY! WE'LL GO DOUBLE WITH JERRY. HE SAID HE HAS A WONDERFUL DATE, BUT I'LL BET SHE CAN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO YOU!

FOOLISHLY, I THOUGHT I WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING!

AND BETTY, I'D LIKE YOU TO WEAR MY FRAT PIN!

OH THANK YOU, LARRY!

AFTER LARRY LEFT...

THAT MAKES THE SECOND PIN I HAVE! BUT I'M ON A SPOT. LARRY WANTS TO DOUBLE-DATE WITH JERRY--BUT *I'M* JERRY'S DATE! I KNOW-I'LL HAVE TWO ESCORTS!

THE NEXT DAY AT SCHOOL, I SPOKE TO JERRY. IT TOOK A BIT OF CONVINCING BUT I FINALLY GOT HIM TO AGREE TO SHARING OUR SATURDAY DATE WITH LARRY. THEN, ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT...

GOLLY, HAL, YOU BOWL WONDERFULLY. YOU MADE A TERRIFIC SCORE!

THANKS, BETTY. BUT I HAVE SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS! I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK YOU FOR AWHILE--WILL YOU, THAT IS, I'D BE AWFULLY PROUD IF YOU'D WEAR MY FRAT PIN.

BO 30 ALLE

THAT MAKES NUMBER 3. BUT I CAN'T REFUSE! I'D HURT HIS FEELINGS. THE PINS ARE ALL THE SAME SO THEY CAN'T TELL WHOSE PIN I'M WEARING.
"ON FRIDAY NIGHT, I GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED BERT'S PIN, TOO. AFTER ALL, I LIKED THEM ALL! SATURDAY NIGHT MY TWO ESCORTS MET AT MY DOOR. I TOLD LARRY THAT JERRY'S DATE SUDDENLY TOOK SICK SO I HAD INVITED HIM ALONG WITH US...
MY CAR IS ACROSS THE STREET.
OH, IT'S SO NICE HAVING TWO ESCORTS!
IS IT?
"WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE DANCE, THE REAL TROUBLE STARTED...
WELL, I'LL TAKE THE FIRST DANCE.
OKAY, JERRY, BUT LARRY HAS THE NEXT.
HOLD ON JUST A MINUTE! BY RIGHTS, I'M ENTITLED TO THE FIRST DANCE. AFTER ALL, I...
"I DANCED OFF WITH HAL -- KNOWING MY TRICK WOULD COME OUT NOW! BUT THEY WOULDN'T STAY ANGRY WITH ME! THEN I SAW THEM SHAKE HANDS. WHAT COULD THAT MEAN?
BETTY, YOU'RE A VERY PRETTY GIRL. YOU HAVE CHARM AND PERSONALITY... BUT YOU LACK SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT!
REALLY! WHAT'S THAT?
"I COULD FEEL MY FACE REDDEN AS THEY TOLD ME...
YOU'RE INCONSIDERATE AND INSINCERE. YOU'VE MADE A GAME OF COLLECTING BOYS' HEARTS AND DANGLING THEM! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY FAIR AND SQUARE..
AND WE JUST FOUND OUT THAT FOUR OF US WERE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO "PIN" YOU -- SO WE'RE BOYCOTTING YOU! NO MORE DATES TILL YOU LEARN THE MEANING OF CONSIDERATION!
I KNOW NOW I WAS WRONG! THE FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DO IS RETURN THESE FRAT PINS WITH AN APOLOGY. THEN, ALL I CAN DO IS WAIT... AND HOPE THEY'LL FORGIVE ME!
THE END

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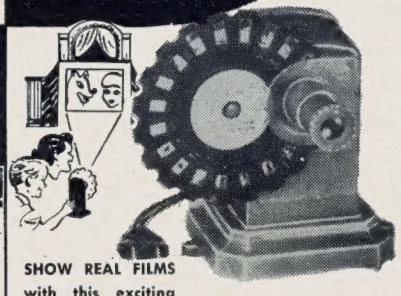

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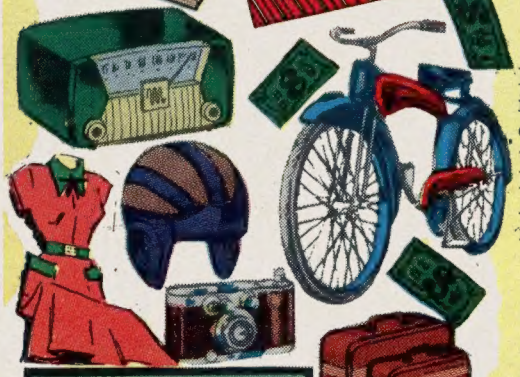

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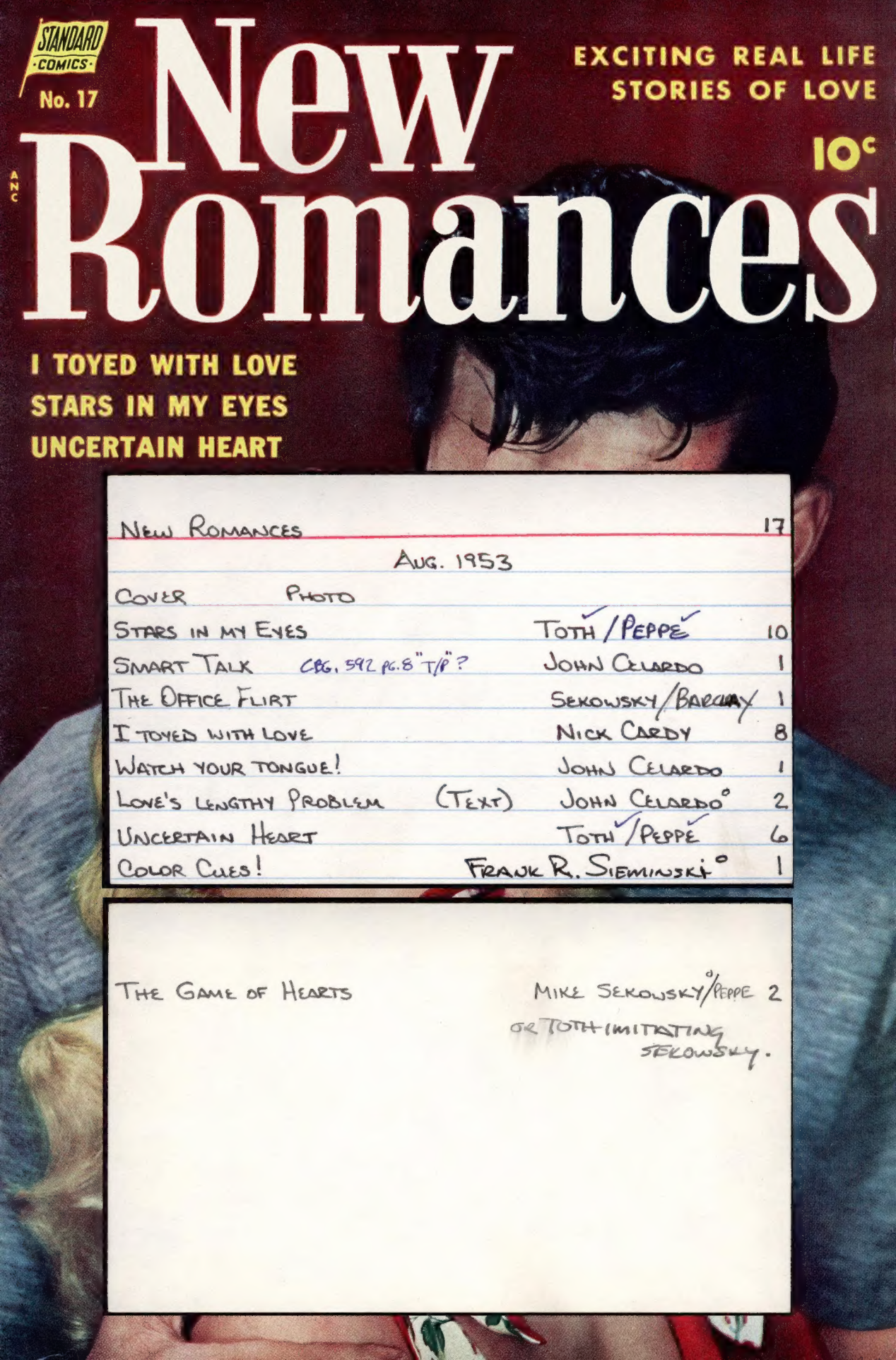

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COVER	PHOTO		
STARS IN MY EYES		TOTH / PEPPE	10
SMART TALK	CBG. 592 PG. 8 "T/P"?	JOHN CELARDO	1
THE OFFICE FLIRT		SEKOWSKY / BARCLAY	1
I TOYED WITH LOVE		NICK CARDY	8
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COLOR CUES!		FRANK R. SIEMINSKI°	1

THE GAME OF HEARTS		MIKE SEKOWSKY°/PEPPE OR TOTH IMITATING SEKOWSKY.	2